



WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE (WDFW)

ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

2006 Annual Report



wdfw.wa.gov/enf/enforce

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Chief's Introduction

This report acknowledges the great work of the men and women of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Program in 2006. We have exceeded many of the standards set in previous years. However, we will continue to make improvements in order to achieve our mission of protecting citizens and our state's precious fish and wildlife resources.

Please contact me at enforcement-web@dfw.wa.gov if you have any comments or questions regarding this report.



MISSION/VISION/VALUES

Enforcement Program Mission Statement

The mission of the Enforcement Program is to provide for public safety, to protect fish and wildlife from unlawful harvest, to protect fish and wildlife habitat, to assist the public in resolving wildlife problems, and to educate the public about fish and wildlife issues.

Enforcement Program Vision

The Department of Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Program has a well-deserved reputation for excellence. We maintain the highest standards of professional ethics and personal integrity. We are committed to the philosophy of community policing, partnering, and problem-solving with those we serve. We employ both time-tested methods and promising new approaches for wildlife protection within the communities we serve. We manage all of our resources – including people, equipment, and technology – prudently and effectively. Our communication is direct, open, and respectful. We value our unity and our differences, recognizing that there is strength in both. Our commitment to a safe and healthy workplace is shown in high morale, job satisfaction, and continually enhanced performance.

Enforcement Program Values

Enforcement Program employees uphold the following values in our individual conduct and in our personal relationships:

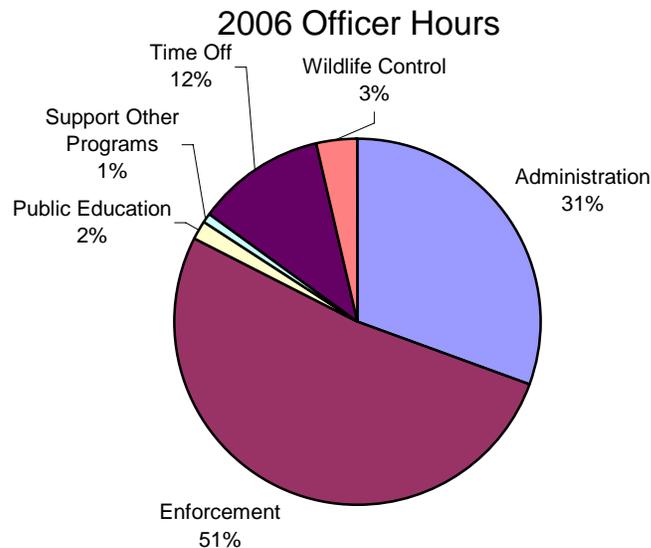
- *Integrity and ethical behavior at all times.*
- *Respect for the rule of law and the dignity of all human beings.*
- *Acceptance of full responsibility and accountability for our actions.*
- *Empathy and compassion for others.*
- *Direct communication that permits and encourages healthy disagreement.*
- *Resolving differences in a mutually-supportive and positive way.*
- *Equal treatment of all sworn and civilian members of the department.*



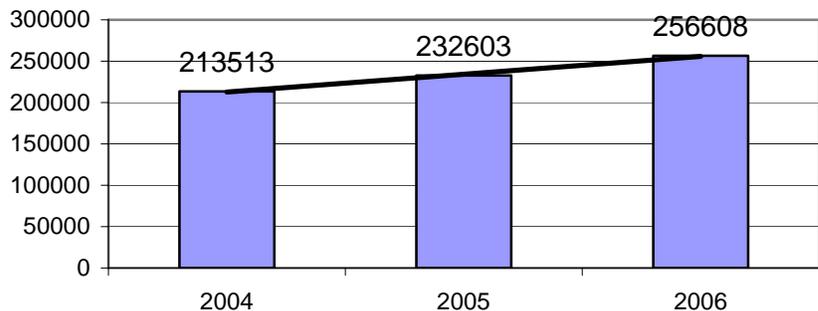
In our professional responsibilities, we value:

- *Individual and team effectiveness in solving issues affecting fish and wildlife.*
- *Exceptional responsiveness to the public and resource we serve.*
- *Equal protection and service for all, regardless of economic status or position.*
- *Quality training and commitment to personal and professional growth.*
- *Flexibility in adapting to change.*
- *Innovation, creativity, and reasoned risk-taking.*
- *A methodical approach to problem-solving.*
- *Responsible and creative management of all our resources.*
- *Excellence and continuous improvements in all we do.*

ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM 2006 DATA



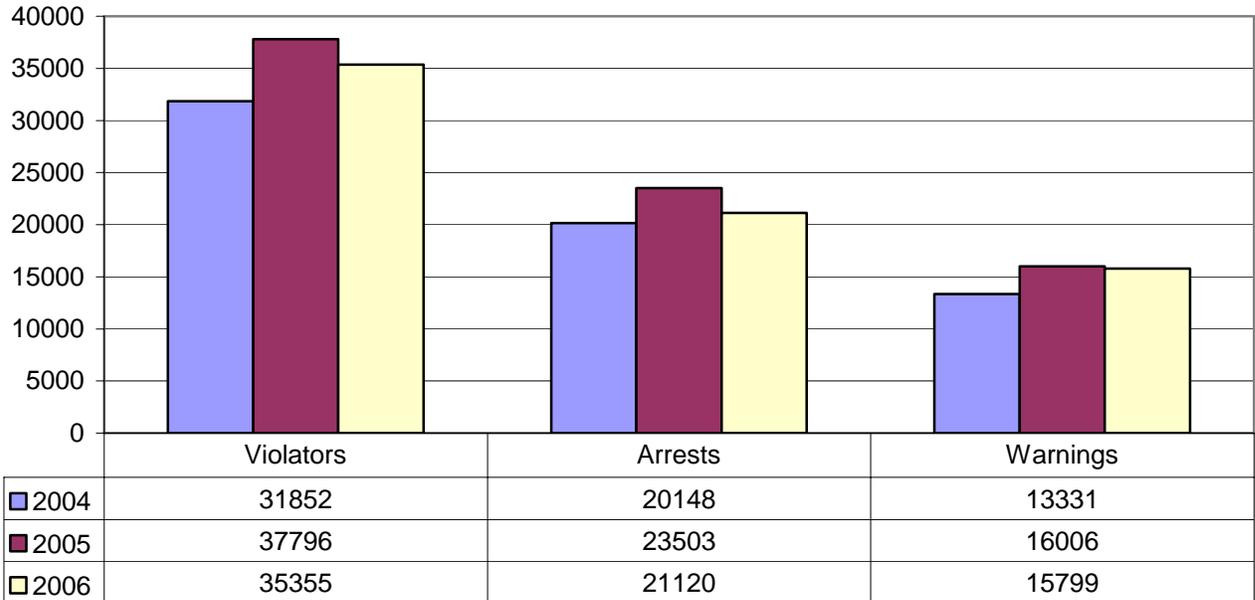
Enforcement Contacts



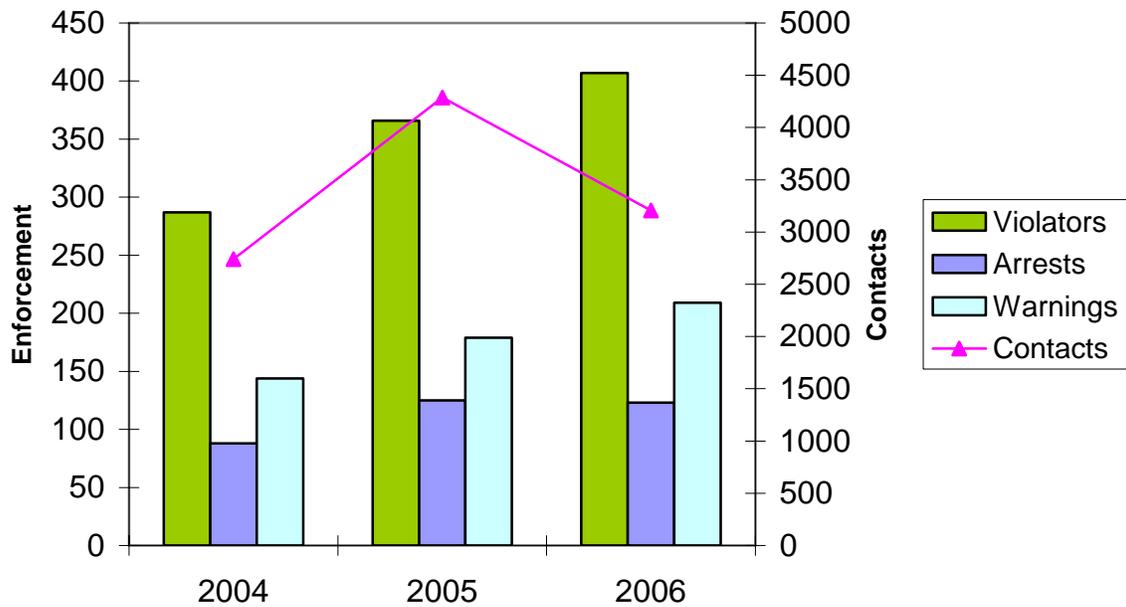
Contacts have increased by 20% from 2004 to 2006.



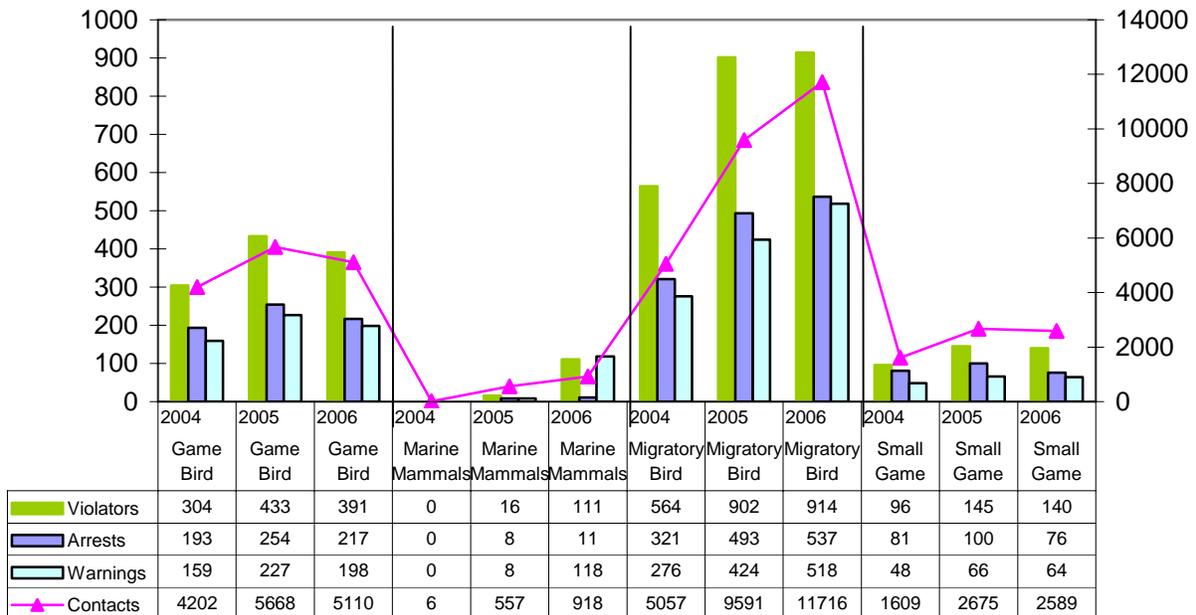
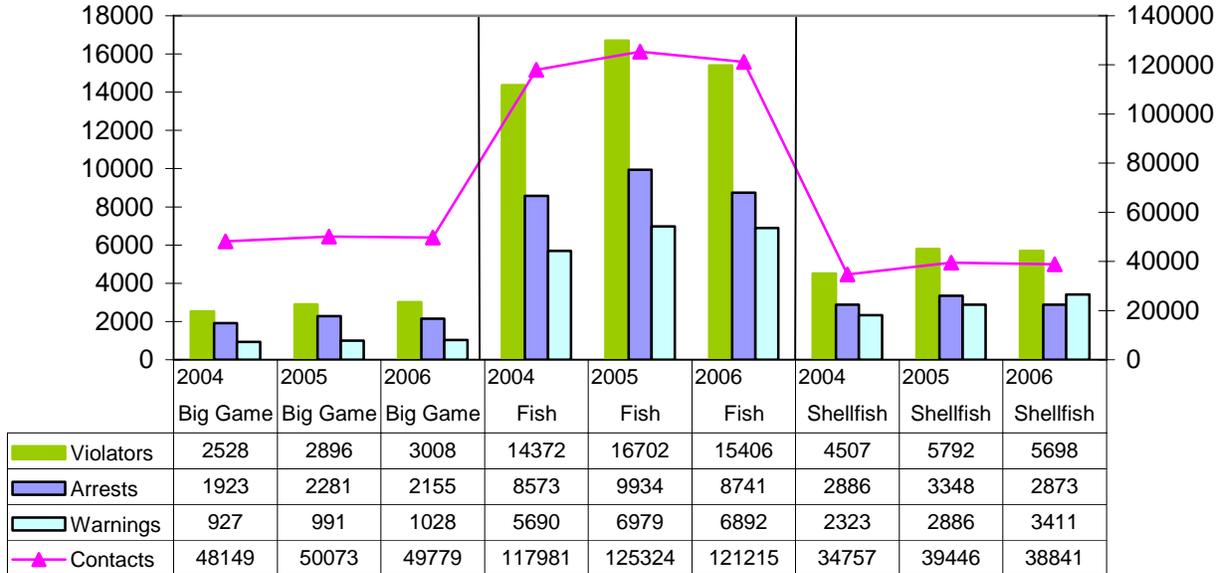
Enforcement Activity



Habitat Enforcement

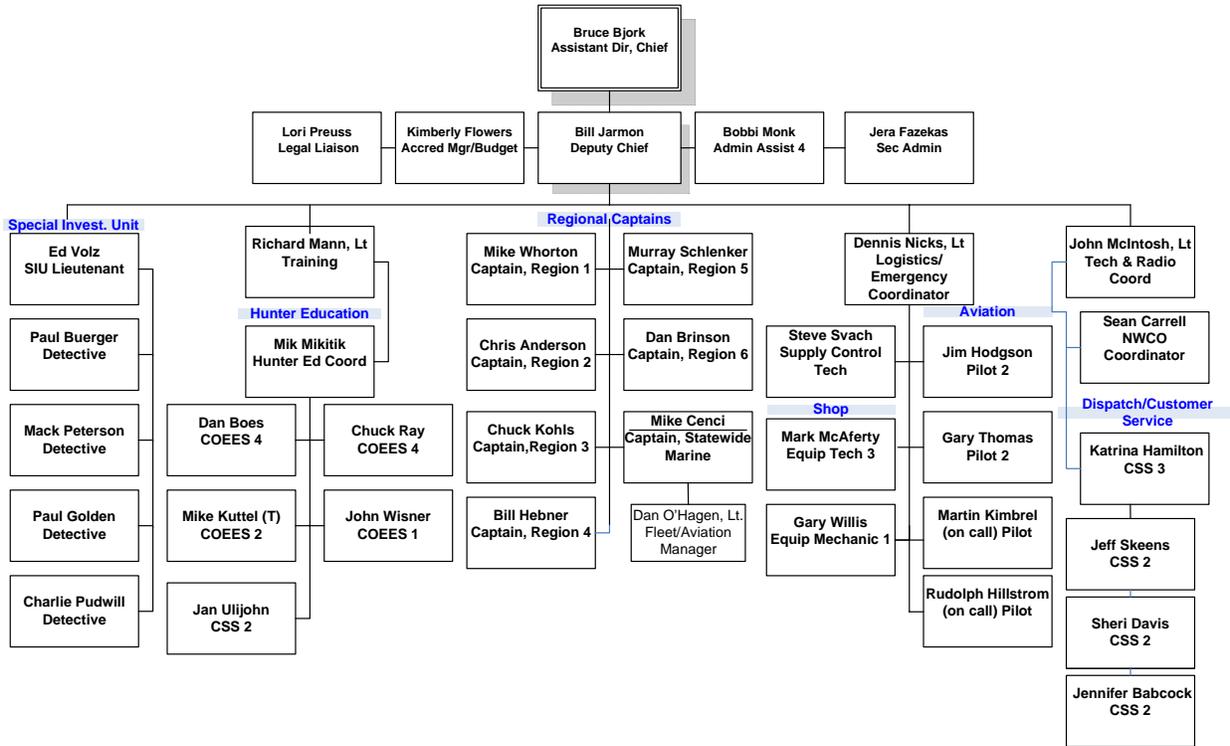


Fish and Wildlife Enforcement by Species Category



HEADQUARTERS

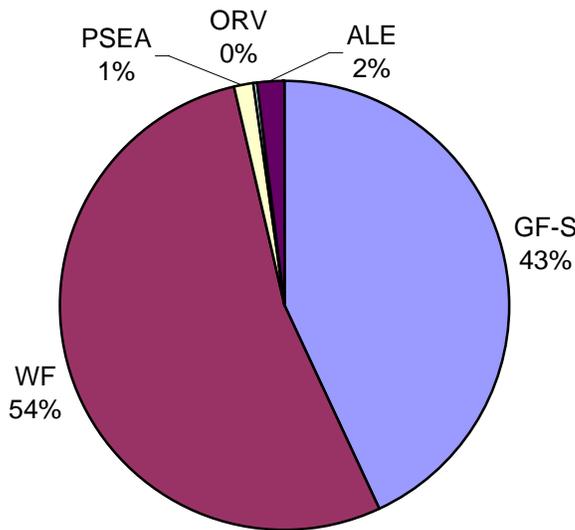
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Enforcement Program
November 2006



Deputy Chief Bill Jarmon



ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET INFORMATION



Funding Source	Amount
General Fund – State (GF-S)	\$14,857,240
Wildlife Fund – State (WF-S)	\$18,528,368
ALE	\$704,891
Public Safety Enforcement Account (PSEA)	\$486,474
ORV	\$23,492
TOTAL 05-07 BIENNIUM	\$34,600,465

RECENTLY-ENACTED LEGISLATION

Substitute House Bill 2372

Brief Description: Encouraging volunteers to teach hunter education courses.

Background:

The Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is responsible for the operation of a statewide hunter education program. This program, or an equivalent program in another state, must be completed by most applicants for a state hunting license.

The hunter education program consists of at least 10 hours of instruction in safety, conservation, sportsmanship, and firearm handling. Average classes involve four to six sessions and require the student to pass a written test and demonstrate firearm skills.

WDFW offers both a live course option and a home study option. Live courses are scheduled throughout the state.

Volunteers teach Hunter education courses, either individually or as a team, who are trained and certified by WDFW. All instructors must be at least 21 years of age and undergo a background investigation by WDFW.

Summary:



The Department is directed to create non-monetary incentives to encourage more individuals to volunteer their time as hunter education instructors. The incentives may include additional hunting opportunities for instructors.

Effective Date: June 7, 2006

Substitute House Bill 2958

Brief Description: Penalizing persons who violate rules concerning nontoxic shot use.

Background:

State Regulation of Toxic Shot

The Legislature has vested the Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) with the authority to adopt, amend, and repeal rules that deal with the equipment and methods that may be used in the state for taking wildlife and fish. The Commission has exercised this authority to prohibit the use of toxic shot in many of the state's wildlife areas and when hunting for waterfowl, coot, or snipe.

Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Reward Account

The Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Reward Account receives the revenues generated from the assessment of criminal wildlife penalties relating to the unlawful hunting of big game. Funds in the account may be used by the Commission for wildlife enforcement, including the investigation and prosecution of fish and wildlife offenses and providing rewards to informants.

Summary:

Individuals age 16 or older who are convicted of the unlawful hunting of birds because of a failure to abide by a Commission rule regarding the use of non-toxic shot face penalties in addition to the standard penalties for a misdemeanor. The additional penalties include:

- a two-year revocation of the person's small game hunting privileges; and
- a \$1,000 criminal wildlife penalty assessment.

Provides that, in addition to the penalties set forth in this act, if a person other than a youth as defined in RCW 77.08.010 for hunting purposes, violates a rule adopted by the commission under the authority of Title 77 RCW that requires the use of nontoxic shot, upon conviction:

(1) The court shall require a payment of one thousand dollars as a criminal wildlife penalty assessment that must be paid to the clerk of the court and distributed to the state treasurer for deposit in the fish and wildlife enforcement reward account. The criminal wildlife penalty assessment must be imposed regardless of and in addition to any sentence, fine, or costs imposed for violating this act. The criminal wildlife penalty assessment must be included by the court in any pronouncement of sentence and may not be suspended, waived, modified, or deferred in any respect; and



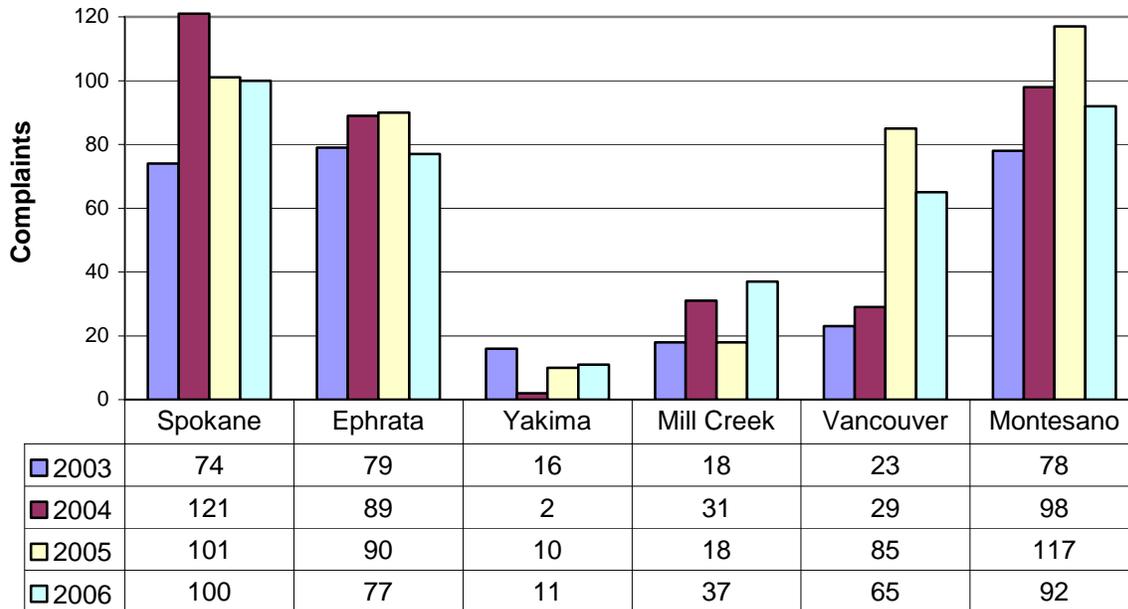
(2) The department shall revoke the hunting license of the person and order a suspension of small game hunting privileges for two years.

Effective: June 7, 2006

HEADQUARTERS DATA:

PERMIT TYPE	# PERMITS ISSUED 2005	# PERMITS ISSUED 2006	% Change
Special Trapping Permits	762	776	1.8%
Timber Damage Permits	219	222	1.4%
Public Safety Cougar Permits	17	12	-29.4%
Snag Permits	8	15	87.5%
Salvage Permits	17	13	-23.5%
Special Wildlife Permits	4	9	125%
Nuisance Wildlife Operator Permits	14	12	-14.3%

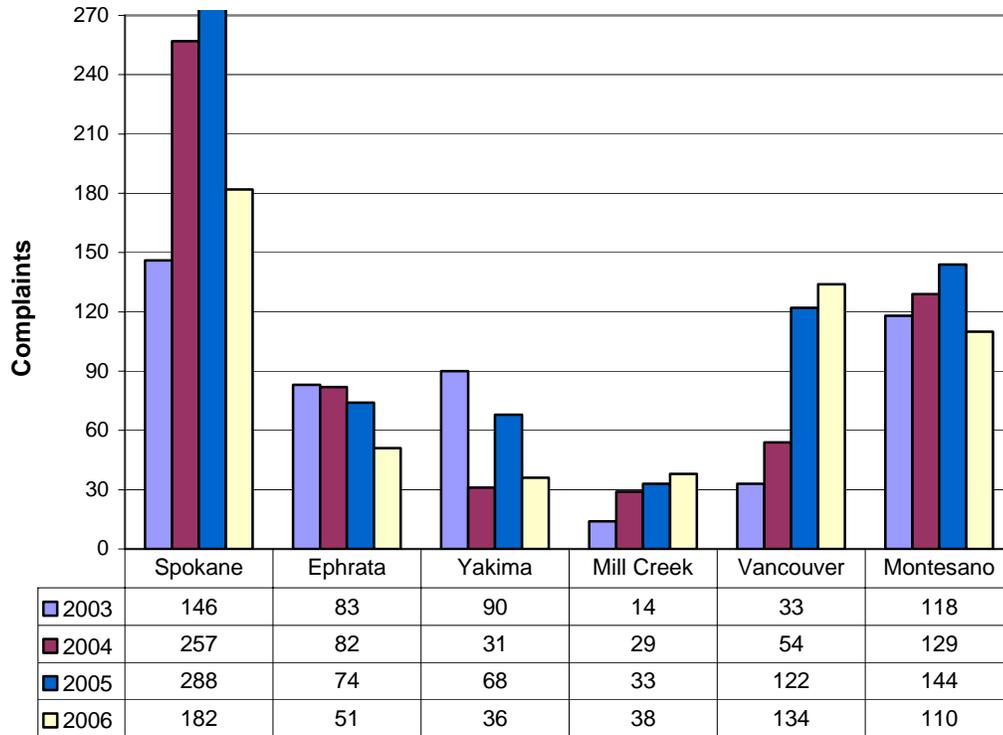
Nuisance Wildlife Complaints by Region



Nuisance Wildlife is defined as coyote, deer, elk, raccoon, squirrel, skunk, opossum, and crow.



Dangerous Wildlife (Bear and Cougar) Complaints by Region



DAMAGE CLAIMS-STATEWIDE (DEER AND ELK)

Region	Deer		Elk		Damage Claims Filed		Dollar Claimed		Damage Claims Awarded		\$ Percentage Awarded	
	Years*	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005
Spokane	8	4	5	8	13	12	\$114,676.12	\$61,738.73	\$49,551.22	\$47,223.02	43%	76%
Ephrata	0	1	0	0	0	1	\$0	135.87	\$0	\$135.87	-	100%
Yakima	0	0	10	8	10	8	\$158,399.49	203787.25	\$60,514.63	\$24,893.72	38%	12%
Mill Creek	0	0	4	5	4	5	\$13,465.30	27616.90	\$13,430	\$6,157.80	100%	22%
Vancouver	0	2	7	9	7	11	\$52,660.65	152188.78	\$36,927.38	\$13,669.38	70%	9%
Montesano	1	0	9	19	10	19	\$41,154.68	135710.63	\$30,495.61	\$39,242.95	74%	29%
Total	9	7	35	49	44	56	\$380,356.24	581178.16	\$190,918.84	\$131,322.74	50%	23%
Change	-22%		40%		27%		53%		-31%		-55%	

*2005 Data from July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

*2006 Data from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006

DAMAGE CLAIMS BY CROP-STATEWIDE (DEER AND ELK)

Region	Fruit Claimed/ Paid		Grain Claimed/ Paid		Grasses Claimed/ Paid		Legumes Claimed/ Paid		Other Claimed/ Paid		Total Claimed/ Paid	
	Years*	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005
Spokane	\$40900/ \$0	\$1000/ \$0	\$65668/ \$46675	\$41237/ \$33760	\$5232/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$2876/ \$2876	\$16102/ \$10000	\$0/ \$0	\$3400/ \$3463	\$144676/ \$49551	\$61739/ \$47223
Ephrata	\$0/ \$0	\$136/ \$136	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$136/ \$136
Yakima	\$0/ \$0	\$3948/ \$3948	\$64906/ \$58249	\$72130/ \$24894	\$36046/ \$2265	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$57448/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$158399/ \$60514	\$203787/ \$24894
Mill Creek	\$3523/ \$4560	\$0/ \$0	\$8722/ \$7770	\$0/ \$0	\$1220/ \$1100	\$1575/ \$1575	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$26042/ \$4583	\$13465/ \$13430	\$27617/ \$6158
Vancouver	\$0/ \$0	\$9883/ \$383	\$40004/ \$34513	\$890/ \$890	\$0/ \$0	\$89738/ \$1878	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	12657/ 2414	\$51678/ \$12209	\$52661/ \$36927	\$152189/ \$13669
Montesano	\$0/ \$0	\$19483/ \$4759	\$0/ \$0	\$3395/ \$8154	\$29211/ \$22013	\$44369/ \$23457	\$0/ \$0	\$9571/ \$9571	\$11943/ \$8483	\$58892/ \$36984	\$41155/ \$30496	\$135711/ \$39243
Total	\$44423/ \$4560	\$34450/ \$9226	\$179300/ \$147207	\$10538/ \$67698	\$71709/ \$25378	\$135682/ \$26910	\$2876/ \$2876	\$25673/ \$19571	\$82048/ \$10897	\$140012/ \$57239	\$410365/ \$190918	\$591179/ \$131323
Difference	-\$9973/ +\$4666		-\$168732/ -\$79509		+\$63973/ +\$1532		+\$22797/ +\$16695		+\$57964/ +\$46342		+\$180814/ -\$59595	

*2005 Data from July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

*2006 Data from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006



HUNTER EDUCATION DIVISION



The hunter education division conducts public training for basic hunter education, bowhunter education, trapper education, and advanced hunter education. Most of the 4.8 FTE staff effort is directed at the mandated, basic program, with the following highlights for the 2006 fiscal year:

- ❑ Development and introduction of a new Student Manual and a new online learning module
- ❑ Introduction of special recognition via hunting permits for instructors
- ❑ Expanded support for newly-certified instructors
- ❑ Expanded support for hunter education associations



Hunting Incident Data Summary: FY 1999 - FY 2006				
Fiscal Year	# Fatal Incidents	#Non-Fatals	#Licenses Sold	Rate/100,000
FY 2006	1	7	N/A	N/A
FY 2005	4	13	*284,138	5.98
FY 2004	0	13	*284,482	4.57
FY 2003	0	14	*277,779	5.04
FY 2002	1	10	*275,435	3.99
FY 2001	1	11	185,762	5.92
FY 2000	0	7	218,842	3.2
FY 1999	0	9	186,178	4.83

* License sales system changed in FY 2002. License sales are now broken down into eight different categories, including deer license only, deer and elk licenses, a comprehensive multi-species license, elk license only, a deer, bear and cougar license, a bear and cougar license, and an elk, bear and cougar license, and, finally, a small game only license.

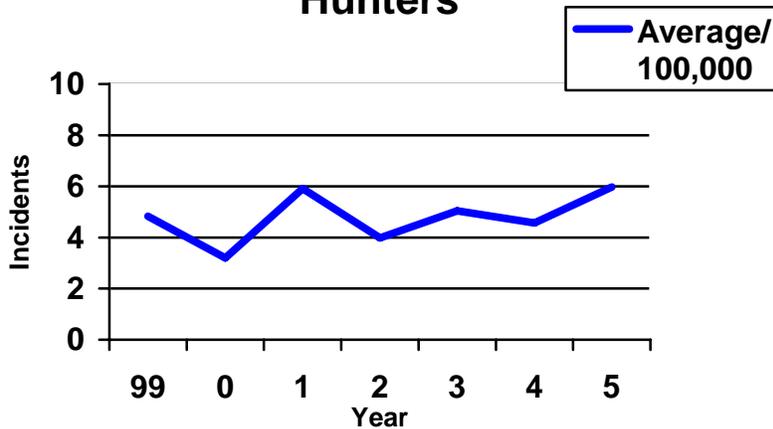
Hunting incident rates during the project period declined again, continuing the long-term drop evident during the past decade. A total of 7 non-fatal incidents occurred, with 1



fatality reported during the fiscal year. This is the third time in the past eight years that hunting incidents have dipped into the single digit column.

While short-term outlook for hunting incidents will vary from fiscal year to fiscal year, the average accident rate per 100,000 Washington hunters is a more useful measure to gauge overall progress in public safety. For example, for the seven-year period from FY 1999 through FY 2005, the incident rate was 4.79 per 100,000 hunters. By contrast, during the decade 1992 – 2001, the rate was 5.64 incidents per year. This compares very favorably to the 9.15 incidents per 100,000 Washington hunters for the previous decade. The single most important factor to explain this dramatic decline was the mandatory use of hunter orange, which began for hunting certain species in Washington in 1992.

Hunting Incidents Per 100,000 Hunters



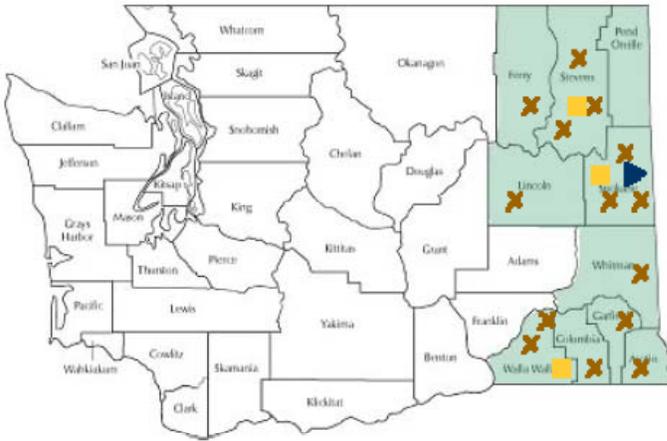
Comparison Of All Hunter Education Courses By Fiscal Year							
Year	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
# Courses	447	477	398	467	601	585	630

Comparison Of All Hunter Education Division Student Enrollments By Fiscal Year							
Fiscal Year	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
# Students	10,758	11,500	10,895	12,933	14,907	15,331	15,227

Total enrollments decreased slightly during the project year, with minor gains noted only in the bowhunter and home study education programs. Student numbers by education program offering were: Basic hunter education, 13,460 students; Advanced Hunter Education 949 students; Home Study program, 682 students; Bowhunter Education, 66 students, trapper education 70 students.



Region 1 – Spokane



Captain Mike Whorton

Captain = ▲
 Sergeant = ■
 Officer = ✕

- Investigative Cooperation with Oregon State Patrol:** In early September 2006, Officers were shown a photograph of a subject posing with two very large trophy mule deer bucks. The subject had apparently bragged that he had shot one of the bucks on the Tucannon River and the other in Oregon. Officers recognized that bucks of this class did not come from the areas the subject claimed. Officers identified the suspect and learned he was from Medford, Oregon and had purchased multiple illegal Washington resident licenses. Additionally records indicates he was a convicted felon and therefore unable to lawfully possess firearms. The subject was contacted in Columbia County in November hunting with a rifle. Pursuant to that contact, he was arrested for being a felon in possession of a firearm. A search warrant for his vehicle was served on him. The search of the vehicle produced photographs of the subject with a large bull elk that he indicated he had taken in Washington. Acting on the additional information found, Officers, in concert with Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Troopers, served an additional warrant on the subject's home in Oregon. Multiple illegal deer racks were seized, as well as the bull elk rack he had killed in Washington. The deer racks in his home were matched to the bucks in seized photographs, which resulted in proving all the animals were killed illegally on closed winter range in eastern Oregon. Numerous big game closed season charges and unlawful purchases licenses were filed on the subject in both Washington and Oregon. Additional charges may be forthcoming pending DNA test results.





Mandatory Check Station

Conducted: Detachment 22 Officers conducted a mandatory check station during modern firearm deer season in Lincoln County. Over 200 contacts were made resulting in 16 arrests. Arrests included exceeding the bag limit on deer, closed season mule deer, fail to tag, and loaded firearms.

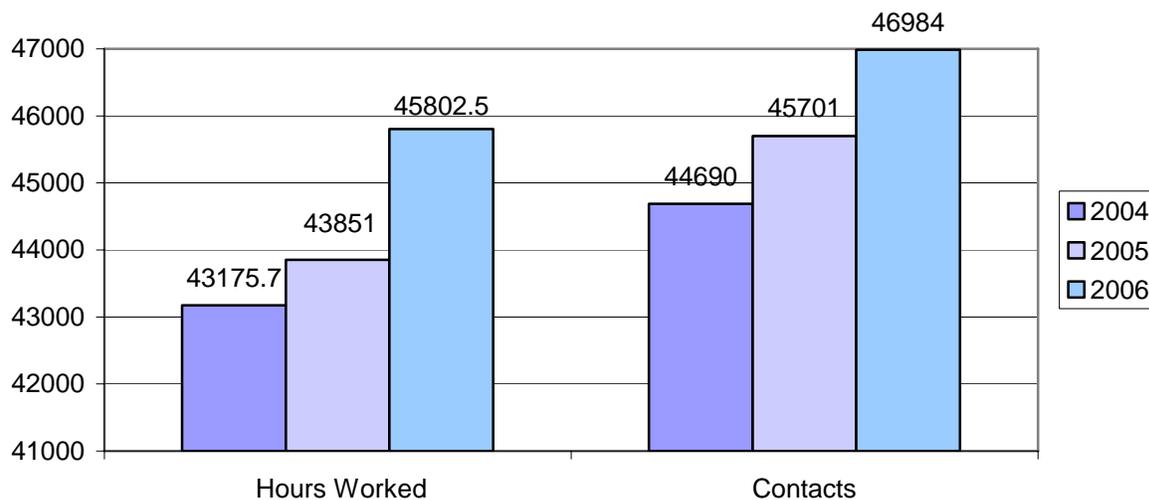
Crowd Reaches Riot Potential: Officers coordinated multi-agency officer participation with roadblocks and property protection on the Columbia Complex Fire out of Dayton. Eleven officers were mobilized. There were several hostile people and one subject was



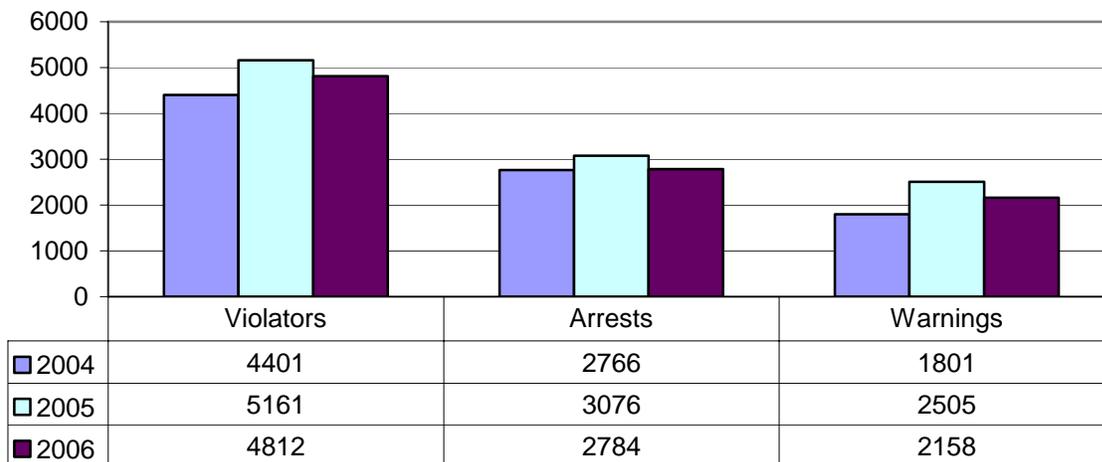
arrested for obstructing and resisting when he refused orders that he was not able to go through the roadblock. During the incident, several people were watching and becoming hostile and yelling at the Officers and Deputies nearly starting a riot. Officers booked one individual for obstructing and resisting arrests.



Region 1 Hours and Contacts



Region 1 Enforcement Activity



Region One Officer of the Year: Mike Johnson



Officer Mike Johnson has worked for the Department for 23 years and continues to exhibit the traits most desirable in a Fish & Wildlife Officer. Mike exemplifies qualities in an officer that set the standard for others to aspire to. When faced with an assignment, he puts forth 110% until the job is completed. An example of this is when Deputy Chief Jarmon asked him to come up with a statewide training plan for Emergency Vehicle Operator's Course (EVOC) instruction for the Enforcement Officers. Mike spent hours compiling data on what driving courses were available to the Department around the state, what the cost for each was, when they would be available, and what equipment would be needed or furnished by the

Department. Mike developed a curriculum for the training manual coordinating with Officer Jewell, the only other EVOC instructor in the state. Mike was subsequently offered an Officer 3 position with Master Instructor status. Mike has reviewed and revised the EVOC PowerPoint presentation and instructs on both the skills and pursuit courses at the Washington State Patrol Academy and at all In-Service training sessions. The completion of this assignment is reminiscent of his accomplishments in the Cooperative Compliance and Review Program (CCRP) which when asked to undertake, he willingly accepted and spent three years bringing that program to fruition. He enhanced his knowledge and skills by attending the Natural Resources Leadership Institute in Olympia; he attended the Columbia Basin Fish Passage & Screen Criteria Workshop in Portland, and the Pacific Northwest Natural Resource Leadership Academy. He attended training in new technologies never before used in Natural Resource Law Enforcement such as high-resolution aerial photography with infrared imaging. Mike gave a PowerPoint presentation to a Bonneville Power Administration funds distributor and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board on Gap Analysis. He developed a timeline and history of the CCRP for Chief Bjork for a presentation he gave in Phoenix. Mike also created and presented a PowerPoint program to 100+ people at the Walla Walla Watershed Science and Restoration Conference.

In addition to these monumental assignments, Officer Johnson continues to be among the highest arrest Officers in Detachment 20. He has made over 200 arrests each of the last two years, with numerous big game arrests. He is especially savvy in apprehending deer hunters that are violating the law. Each of the last two seasons has produced over 25 arrests during the first week of the modern firearm deer season. He never misses a Hunter Education Program and teaches the muzzleloading section to all the Walla Walla students each year. Mike accepts new challenges with enthusiasm as he did this year with the new Jet Skis the detachment obtained by attending an 8-hour training class in Spokane and spending many hours on them this summer making numerous arrests.



Region 2 – Ephrata



Captain Chris Anderson

Captain = 
Sergeant = 
Officer = 

- **Copper Wire Theft Investigation:** Officers worked closely with other law enforcement agencies including Moses Lake Police Department and the Grant County Sheriff's Office, but it was these officers who took the initiative that led to the service of numerous search warrants, the recovery of thousands of dollars of farm equipment and the filing of 32 criminal charges, the majority being felony level crimes. Fish and Wildlife Officers were also responsible for solving a couple of county burglaries involving some of these same suspects and uncovered a large child pornographic case that was later referred to forensic experts at the FBI.

Armed with a growing list of suspects, potential witnesses and locations of where stolen property was being stored, officers enlisted the aid of officers from other agencies to help. Officers started picking up suspects who were then interviewed, and statements obtained. Based upon this information, officers were able to write and secure numerous search warrants for various residences and storage units. Officers seized tons of stolen farm equipment, hand tools, electric motors, metal tubing, copper wire, steel cable, irrigation components, and heavy equipment radiators which happen to contain quite a bit of copper.

During the investigation officers learned that the primary suspect was also involved in child pornography. Another search warrant was obtained and his computer and hundreds of disks were seized. Based upon the amount of pornography found on an initial review of his equipment, the officers notified the FBI and requested their assistance with a forensics examination of the hard drive and disks.

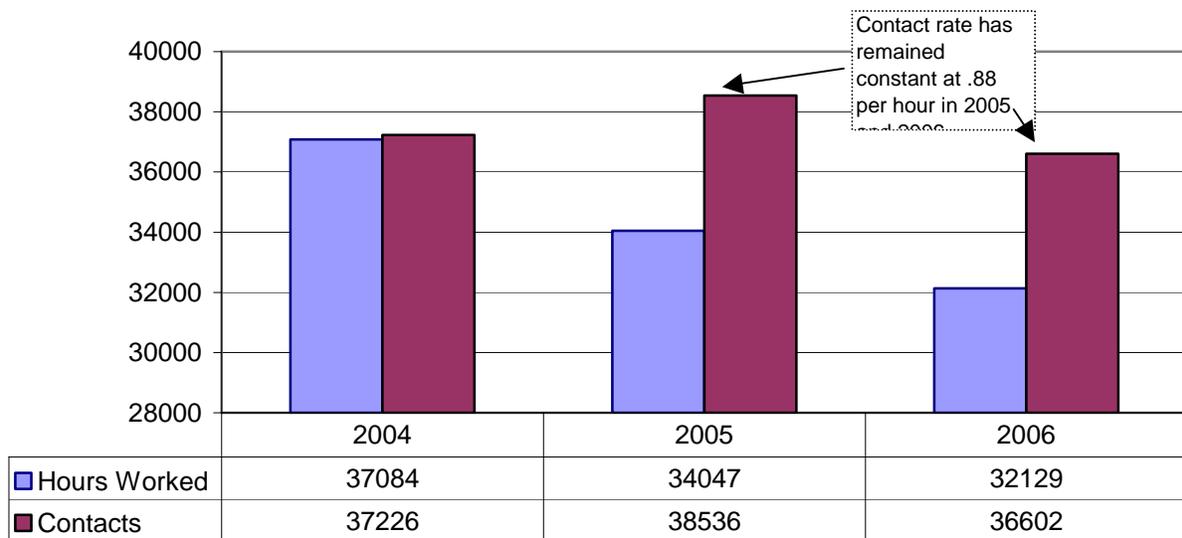
This entire investigation took officers over two months to resolve. The result was 32 major criminal offenses being referred to the prosecutor's office and the sheriff's office. The majority of these violations were classified as felony level crimes involving theft, burglary, and possession of stolen property. Other charges also included felon



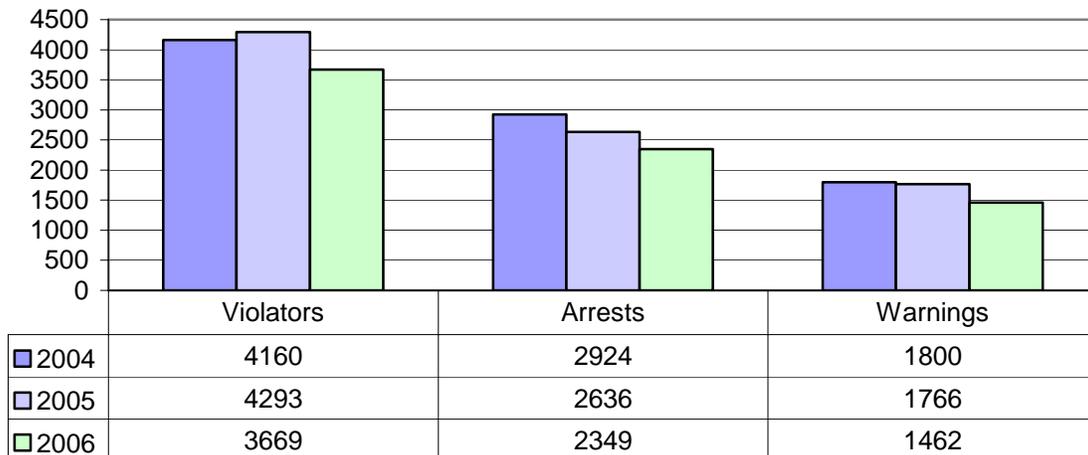
in possession of firearms, possession of child pornography, theft of a motor vehicle, possession of illegal bird parts, witness intimidation and drug possession.

This was an outstanding and professional investigation that resulted in an entire theft and drug ring being dismantled, and the recovery of tons of stolen property and farm equipment. If not for the efforts of local fish and wildlife officers this case would not have had been resolved anywhere near the level that it had. We have received numerous accolades and comments from both the sheriff and the prosecutor's office on the outstanding case package that fish and wildlife officers put together including very detailed and comprehensive case reports.

Region 2 Hours and Contacts



Region 2 Enforcement Activity



Region Two Officer of the Year: Cal Treser



As with his previous assignments, Officer Cal Treser has functioned extremely well in his present assignment. He has developed strong credibility and relationships with constituents of all backgrounds. He has worked very hard to establish and maintain communications with ranching and agricultural interests in the area, particularly with obtaining voluntary compliance with fish screenings, Endangered Species Act, and Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) regulations. He has assisted those same persons in continuing efforts to keep those screens functioning in their designed manner.

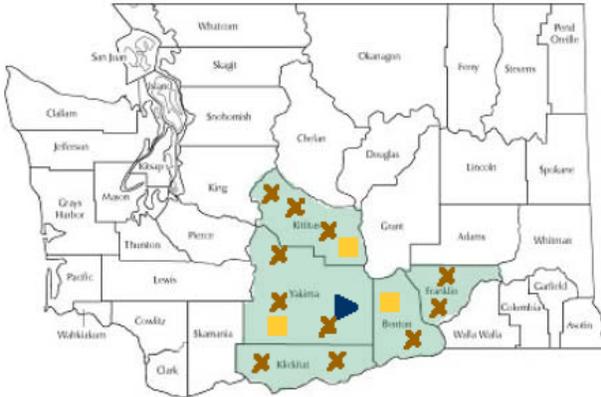
Additionally, Cal came into his station at a time of escalating tensions over continuing Cougar depredation incidents. He continues to handle these citizen concerns and situations effectively. He has become an effective spokesperson on this issue in numerous interviews from the media. His cooperation with other governmental agencies and police departments has increased our effectiveness and credibility within the county. He is very active and creative with enlisting the help of local sportsmen groups to help him post regulatory and closed waters signs and to promptly contact him when they observed violations. This has clearly helped with regulation compliance in his area of responsibility.

In 2000, Cal took on the last WDFW Enforcement Patrol Horse program remaining in the State. He has made several patrols into the backcountry over the past several years checking anglers and deer hunters in which numerous cases have been made. These cases would not have been made without the use of the horses. He also assisted local the fish biologists with creel checks of persons at these lakes by taking them into these areas on his patrols. The horse program requires a significant commitment of time and energy to ensure that the stock and equipment are in serviceable conditions.

Of particular note have been Cal's efforts in the training arena. The time and commitment to maintain his accreditation and efficiencies as a master firearms and defensive tactics instructor is incredible. He has been the central person leading the statewide Enforcement Program firearms instructors. He has updated the existing firearms program and monitors the instructors statewide in their implementation of the training program. He also has been a main instructor of Defensive Tactics in all of eastern Washington. He is a member of the multi-jurisdictional Law Enforcement Mountain Operations School teaching law enforcement operations in a backcountry setting. His style of instruction provides encouragement to officers to properly prepare for defensive and aggressive encounters. These training responsibilities have taken much time for travel and have resulted in frequent overnight absences from his family. He still, however places the utmost emphasis on his wife, Helen, his adult children, and also his grandchildren.



Region 3 – Yakima



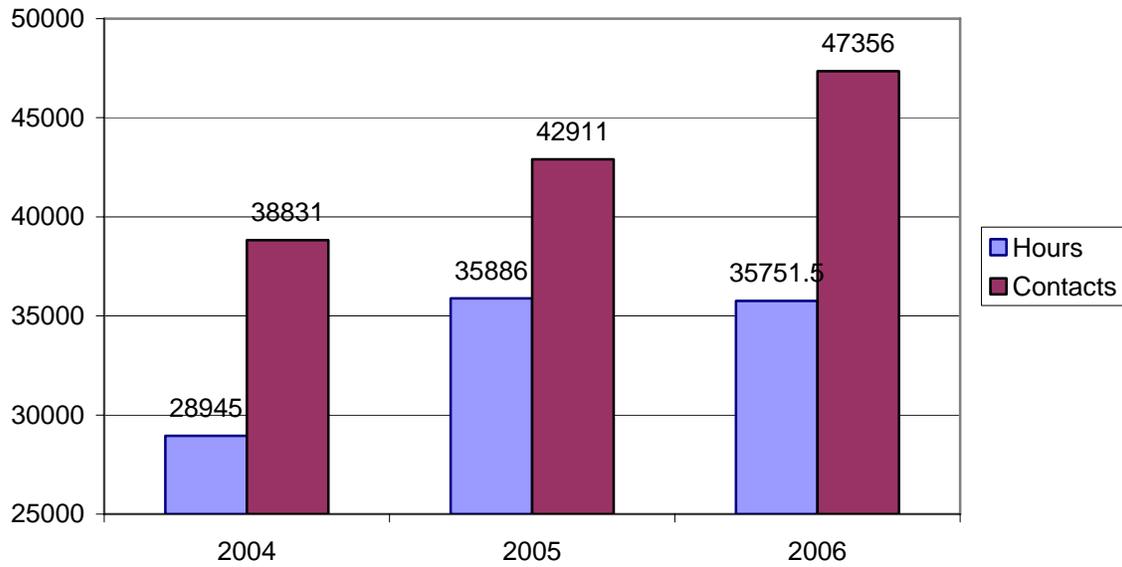
Captain Chuck Kohls

Captain = ▲
Sergeant = ■
Officer = ✕

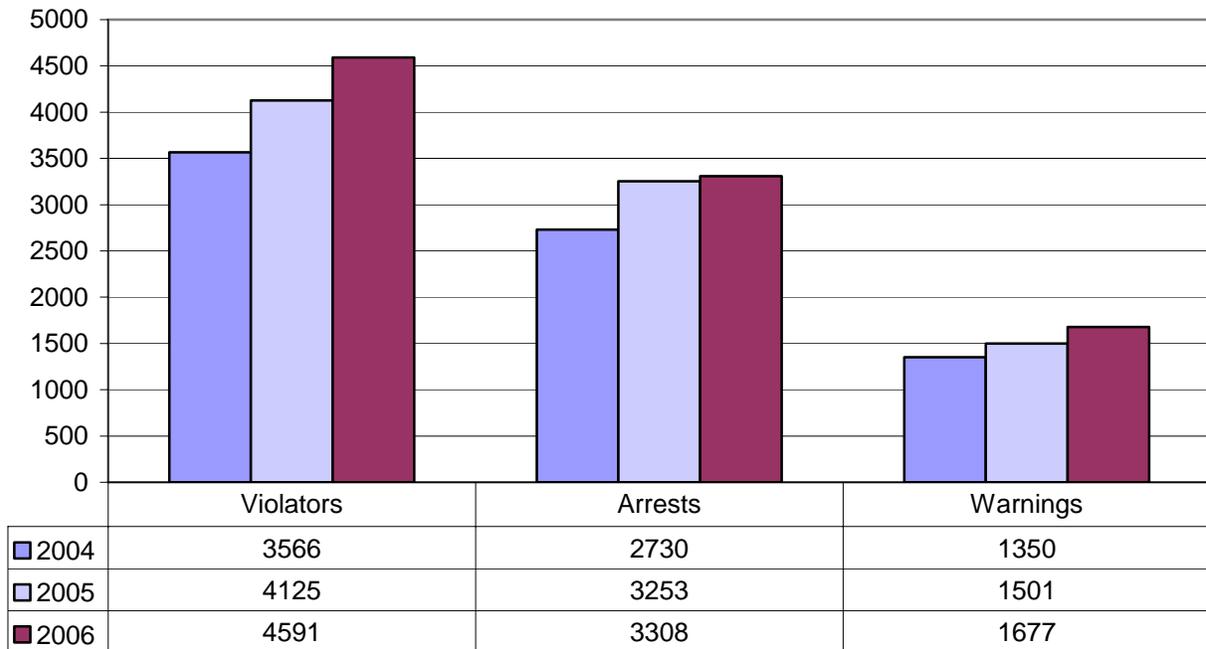
- **Wildlife Depredation Pilot Project:** Region Three Enforcement's Program has been working with the local agricultural community to implement a pilot project addressing wildlife depredation on commercial crops. WDFW's enforcement personnel, biologists, Central Washington University, County Extension, local legislators and the agricultural community's eagerness to partner are identifying both short and long term solutions to the growing problems of wildlife/ human conflicts. Two deer and elk Wildlife Conflict Specialist positions will be hired by August 1, 2006 to work with landowners to prevent or control deer and elk damage on private lands.
- **Migrant Living Issues:** Region Three Enforcement's Program personnel are working with other state, county and federal agencies to address migrant living issues on WDFW lands. An area along the Columbia River near Ringold Hatchery has been polluted with garbage, and sanitation issues creating a land management, public safety, and sanitation problem for WDFW's land managers.
- **Marijuana Grown on WDFW Land:** After a two-year enforcement emphasis with federal, state, and county officers, a WDFW Officer and Sergeant apprehended a suspect working in a marijuana grow on the agency's Sunnyside Wildlife Area. Officers sat in the middle of the grow, when a subject entered just after midnight. As the subject began to water the marijuana, he was taken into custody. These high dollar crops are showing up more and more on our lands. The cooperation between the agencies was outstanding.



Region 3 Hours and Contacts



Region 3 Enforcement Activity



Region Three Officer of the Year: Jon Horn



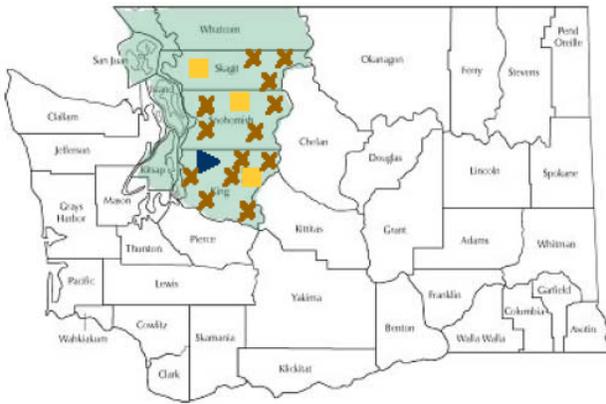
Officer Jon Horn has been selected as the Region Three Officer of the Year. Officer Jon Horn was nominated by several officers within Region Three as the Officer of the Year.

Officer Horn's workload includes a high level of contacts and arrests, excellent community involvement, and a willingness to participate in a variety of patrols. He interacts routinely with other agencies, from a local level to a federal level. He has utilized contacts with the Oregon State Police to cooperatively protect Columbia River fish and wildlife. Jon has developed a good relationship with landowners in his district and helps protect their property in his patrols.

Comments from fellow officers and supervisors alike always include Officer Horn's positive attitude and work ethic. It is obvious that Jon loves his job and takes it seriously.



Region 4 – Mill Creek



Captain Bill Hebner

Captain = ▲
Sergeant = ■
Officer = ✕

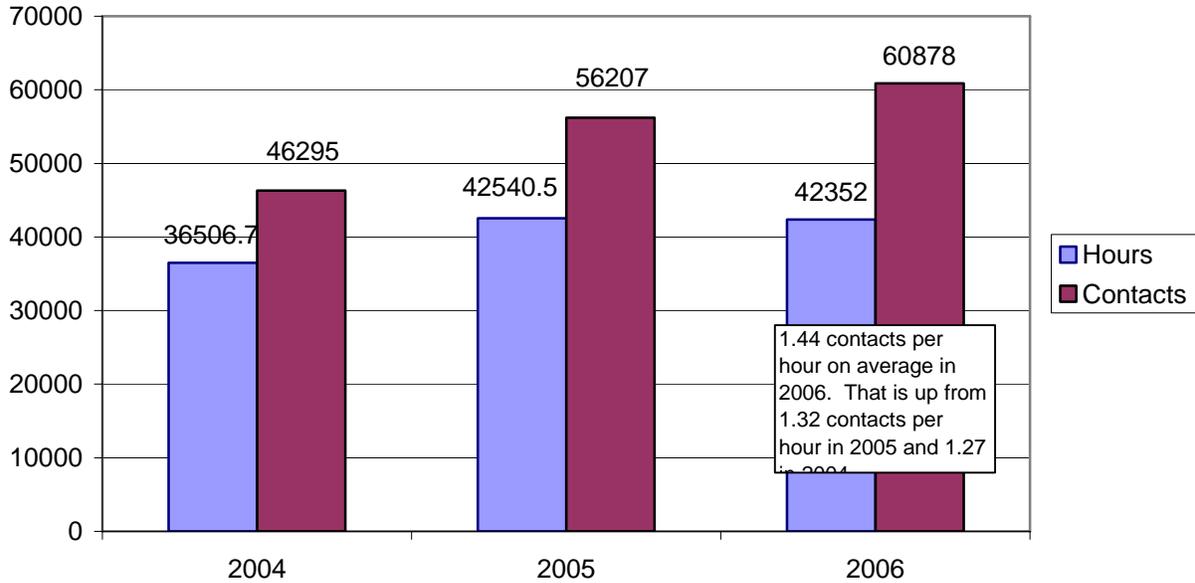
- **Dangerous Wildlife Complaints:** Once again, Region 4 was inundated with dangerous wildlife (bear and cougar) complaints during the spring and early summer. Two of these incidents were highly publicized in the media. One of these incidents involved a bear in the city of Edmonds and with much effort and on site planning by a number of Region 4 Officers, the bear was successfully immobilized and relocated to the high country. The second incident involved a bear that somehow ended up on fraternity row on the campus of the University of Washington in the middle of a Saturday night. Although a number of members of the public as well as the Seattle Police Department, the University of Washington Police, and animal control were on hand to assist, our well-intended immobilization efforts failed and regrettably, the bear succumbed. Both incidents were huge media events on local television stations, the newspapers, and radios.



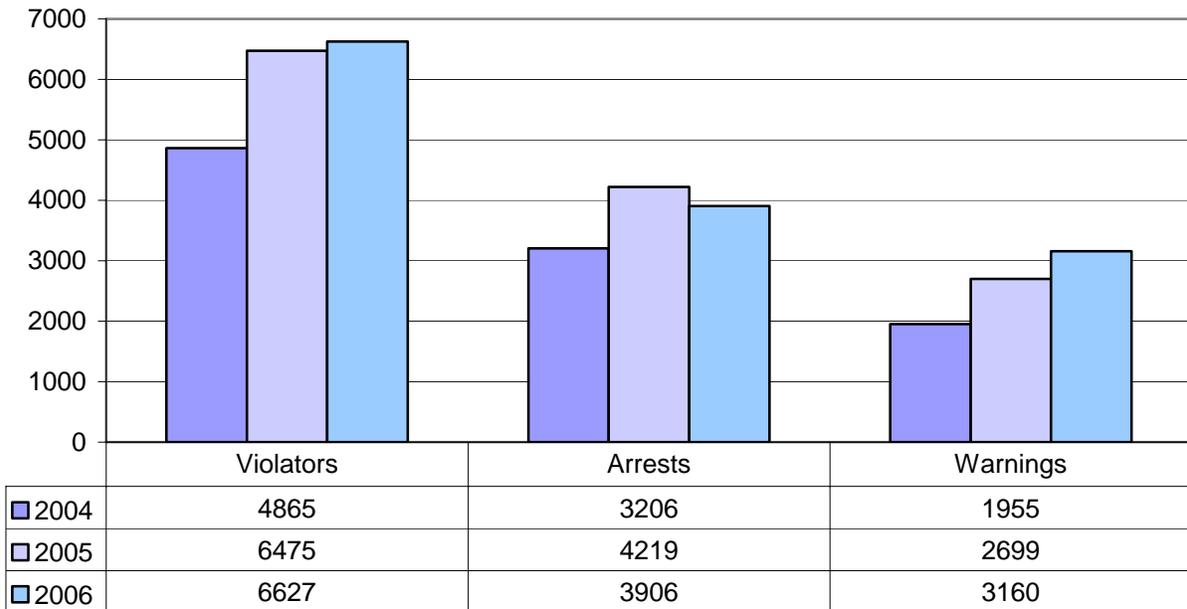
- **Fir Island Goose Hunting:** Fir Island in Skagit County is one of two places in the state (the other being the mouth of the Stillaguamish River) that offers snow goose hunting. During the August WDFW Commission meeting in Mt. Vernon, several Fir Island residents addressed the commission and complained that snow goose hunting was out of control on Fir Island (trespassing, shooting from the road, litter, intoxication, etc.) and that the situation was so bad it constituted a hazard to the Island residents! This behavior description was inconsistent with Region 4 Officer's observations but none the less, the agency asked Captain Hebner and special assistant to the Director Bridget Moran to co-lead a public process in which all of the stakeholders collaboratively develop a Fir Island Snow goose hunting management plan. After implementing some major changes in the snow goose hunting plan, to include a patrol by a Fish and Wildlife Officer every day of the snow goose season, the residents are very pleased with the result of this years snow goose hunt and are now convinced snow goose hunting on Fir Island is manageable.
- **Coyote Attack on a Human:** The report of a coyote nipping at a woman as she went into a daycare facility in the Eastgate neighborhood of Bellevue sent Detachment 10 officers scrambling to investigate. It appeared that this was an isolated incident but it soon became obvious that it was not. Within just a few days, reports of a coyote attacking two small children in the same neighborhood sparked considerable media attention as well as hundreds of phone calls to the Mill Creek Office. Detachment 10 officers teamed up with Department of Agriculture agents, set numerous traps, and also patrolled the neighborhood in search of the coyote or coyotes. After seeing a news clip of an aggressive coyote on a trail near Interstate 90 in the same neighborhood, a WDFW Sergeant set out early one morning to attempt to call in a coyote with a predator call. After about 20 minutes of unsuccessful calling, he started down the trail towards his truck and came face to face with a coyote. The animal did not run away despite obviously seeing the Sergeant. He drew and fired his service firearm and killed the coyote. It is unknown whether this was "the" offending coyote in the neighborhood, however, after this animal was removed, further incidents involving coyote attacks completely ceased. This was the first ever coyote attack on a human documented in Washington State.



Region 4 Hours and Contacts



Region 4 Enforcement Activity



Region Four Officer of the Year: Jennifer Maurstad

Officer Jennifer Maurstad's state service began with the Washington State Patrol as a dispatcher where she served 1.5 years at the Marysville station. She has worked for WDFW Enforcement for over the past 4 years.

Officer Maurstad has in her relatively short career undertaken several large game investigations both in a covert and overt capacity. In 2005, with SIU she began a large case involving the unlawful sale of bobcat kittens via Internet sales, originating from her duty area of Arlington, Washington. This culminated into a major investigation involving two search warrants and the seizure of numerous records and several bobcat kittens. That case is currently in the hands of the prosecutor.

Over the past couple of years, Jennifer lead a multi agency team of investigators consisting of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries, U.S. Forest Service, WDFW, Department of Ecology, Snohomish County and Seattle City Light in response to a major hydraulics violation that occurred on the Sauk River. The illegal work consisted of the excavation of a diversion channel approximately one-quarter mile long and about 30 feet wide, most likely done by a landowner attempting to prevent erosion during flood conditions. Regional Habitat Program Manager Rich Costello described the violation as one of the most egregious violations effecting fish and their habitat that he had ever seen. Jennifer's worked very closely with the Snohomish County Prosecutor's Office that included her spearheaded "Inquiry Judge Hearing." Jennifer's work isn't finished yet and there is still hope that the crucial piece of information necessary for a prosecution.

Officer Maurstad regularly volunteers to work with other units and Regions throughout the state, including special emphasis patrols during hunting season in Eastern Washington, regular assistance to the Marine Division in Puget Sound including undercover operations involving unlicensed charters. She works regularly and well with local law enforcement agencies in her area to include the Snohomish County Sheriffs office, the Washington State Patrol, and the U.S. Forest Service.

Jennifer has developed notoriety in her local community by her regular participation with outreach and education. She regularly provides school programs, conducts Eyes in the Woods training, attends hunter education classes, and speaks with citizen groups in her area.

In addition to being selected as Region 4 Officer of the Year, Officer Maurstad was also honored as the 2006 American Legion Post #37 (Lynnwood) Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.



Region 5 – Vancouver



Captain = ▶
 Sergeant = ■
 Officer = ✕



Captain Murray Schlenker

- **Sea lion hazing:** Region 5 enforcement officers are part of a broader multi-agency response to sea lion -fish interactions near Bonneville Dam. Officers in vessels using cracker shells and rubber bullets are involved in the hazing of sea lions. Officers are typically involved one day per week beginning in March and continuing through May.
- **Realistic Incident Exercise Conducted:** Officers participated in the Lewis County Mass Casualty Incident Exercise at the Mossyrock School. They responded with other law enforcement agencies to a report of an active shooter inside the school buildings. When the smoke cleared – literally, as there was a bomb involved – there were nine students and one officer fatality and approximately 30 injured. Officers apprehended the shooters, rendered emergency first aid, protected emergency medical service personnel, cleared the building, and assisted detectives and coroners. This was an extremely realistic exercise that utilized real firearms with blanks and many simulated injuries.
- **Operation Make Way Violators Will be Cited:** Officers assisted the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) with Operation Make Way. Each year sport salmon fishers anchor in "hog lines" on the Columbia River. These lines of boats can, at times, contain as many as 20-30 sport boats, all anchored side by side stretching out into and at times crossing the shipping channel. The USCG receives many complaints from the shipping industry and the Pilot's Association. Anyone that is near the river at this time of year knows the familiar five short blasts from ship air



horns giving the accepted danger signal time after time. Some sport boats have become so brazen as to defy these ship warnings and hold their ground. Some ships and tugs with barges have had to alter course to avoid collisions. Operation Make Way is an annual enforcement event to help re-educate sport fishers. The *New Fantasy*, a deep draft freighter from Panama, departed Portland terminal. Tucked tight in behind the stern were patrol boats from USCG, WDFW, and Columbia County. (Clark County's boat had mechanical difficulty.) This extra large heavily laden ship made its way down river with the normal *River Pilot*, a representative from the Pilot's Association, and three USCG Officers on the bridge. As it encountered each hog line, the USCG and the pilots identified offending sport boats and sounded the warning blasts. When the sport boats failed to yield the shipping channel, they were identified, photographed, and video taped, and the information passed on to the patrol boats. Time after time, the patrol boats raced out from behind the ship and contacted offenders. Information was taken with citations to be mailed later. The ship never slowed down so the patrol boats had to scurry back to the stern for their next assigned contact. It went on like this for about four hours. Between Portland and Willow Grove, approximately 35 violations were documented.

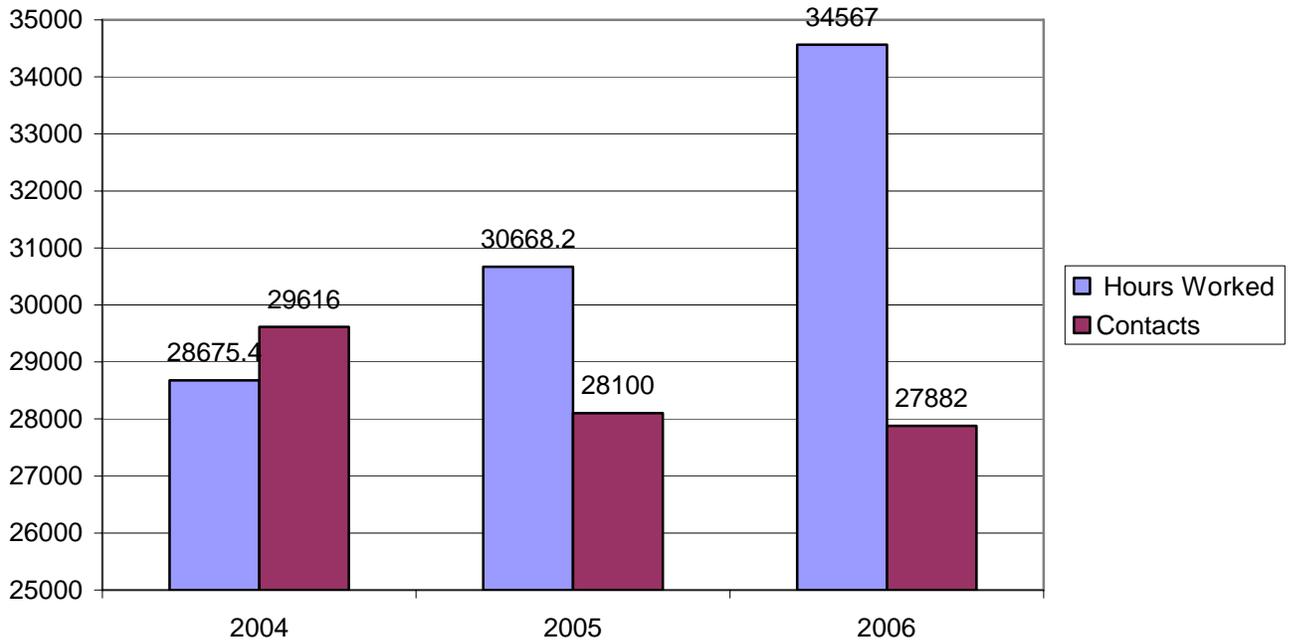
- **Trojan Implosion Preparation and Security:** In preparing for closing Department lands during the Trojan Implosion, Officers discovered that the residents of Sportsman's Loop Development at the mouth of the Kalama River had done considerable work with heavy equipment on Department lands. They removed a large amount of vegetation and trees creating a large parking area next to the river and directly across from the Trojan plant. Coincidentally, the group expected 300 to 400 "guests" to view the implosion. After several interviews and discussions, the Officers made it clear to the residents that Department lands will be closed to all public access during the operation. An emergency closure was implemented and signs posted. Officers were present at the site and in the area from noon Saturday until 10 a.m. Sunday morning. A total of nine Fish and Wildlife Officers were involved on land, in the Command Post, and on the water assisting Cowlitz County Sheriff's Office, Washington State Patrol, and USCG with security. There was a lot of interagency planning and work for 6 seconds of excitement.



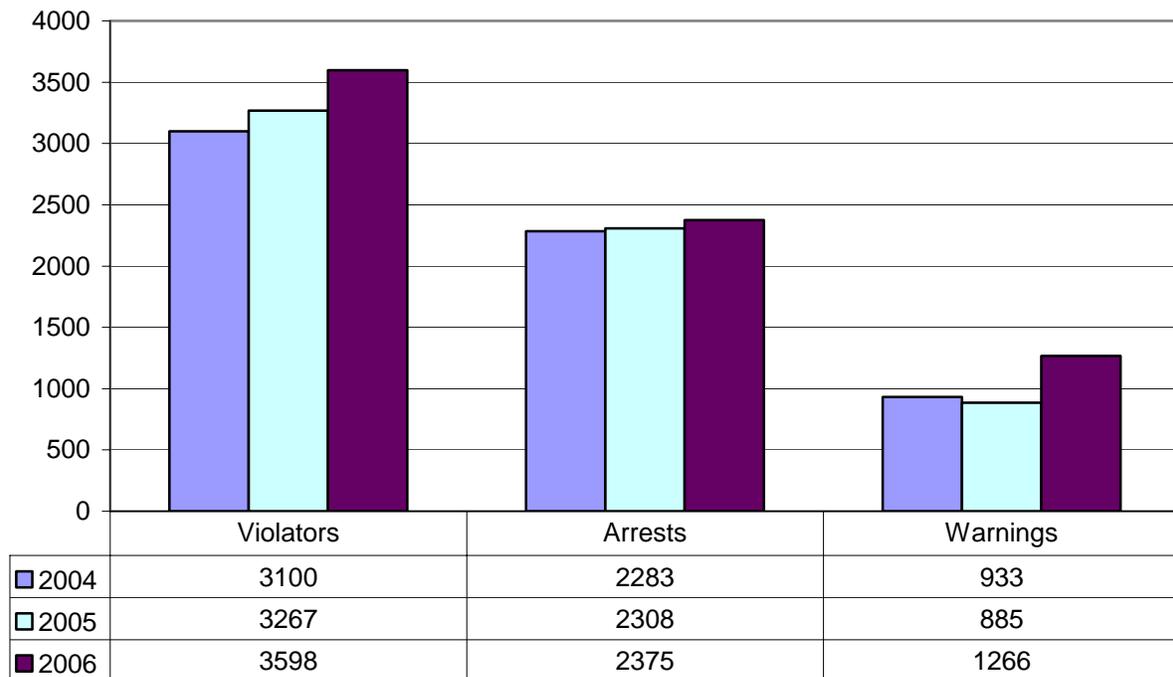
Sergeant Rick Webb was honored with the Pogue/Elms Award.



Region 5 Hours and Contacts



Region 5 Enforcement Activity



Region Five and WDFW Officer of the Year: Tammy Conklin



Officer Conklin was nominated and selected based upon years of dedicated service in the following areas:

Contribution to Habitat Protection: Officer Conklin has made enforcement of Access Areas within her district a high priority. Drug activity and non-fishing related activity is commonplace and she has been proactively working with the Lands Program Division staff to develop creative solutions. She has also involved local volunteers to assist with these efforts. With the use of increased late night patrols and the removal of brush and increased

lighting, illegal activity is on the decrease. She has made numerous drug arrests, all which were felonies, and contacted an occupied stolen vehicle on our access sites. The Regional Lands Agent has been so impressed with the number of arrests that have been made, the significant reduction in drug paraphernalia, drug wastes, and the positive results and community recognition, that he most recently nominated her for the Agency's Innovator Award. Officer Conklin received a Certificate of Recognition during the last Agency Awards ceremony for her outstanding efforts in this area. Officer Conklin routinely spends a day with the local Habitat Biologists educating herself and addressing the concerns of the Biologists on specific projects. She is currently involved in two serious hydraulics investigations, one involving a government agency, the other requiring a search warrant.

Contributions to Enforcement Priorities: Officer Conklin works all hours of the day and night and works all days of the week. In 2005, she issued 261 arrests; 28 written warnings; 90 verbal warnings; and participated in 35 assists. She inspected 23 HPAs, completed 50 problem wildlife forms; and investigated 1 damage claim. Within Detachment 4, Officer Conklin had the highest number of arrests, warnings, HPA checks, and she responded to the third highest number of problem wildlife calls. Officer Conklin has made enforcement of commercial fishing a high priority and has become a well-known figure to the commercial fishers and buyers in Cowlitz County. Her boat operation skills are excellent, and she readily accepts the lead in setting up commercial patrols and investigations. She is currently working a commercial fish investigation. She has identified three commercial buyers in violation. Several felonies will be filed from this case. One high profile big game case involved a reported unprovoked bear attack on a subject. Officer Conklin quickly surmised that it was not a bear "attack" but rather a bite from a bear suffered during the unlawful hunting of bear with dogs over bait and out of season. An extensive investigation was conducted involving search warrants for cell phone records. Six individuals claiming not to know each other were tied together through the hundreds of cell phone calls and text messages that they made to each other during the investigation. Officer Conklin was able to flip one of the suspects and made him a confidential informant on the others. As a result, a 400-pound bear



was recovered with an intact bullet in the carcass. The rifle was recovered at the crime scene along with a camera that was used to photograph portions of the crime. The baiting site was located as well. Six subjects were charged with a total of 36 counts of unlawful activity. Two of the subjects agreed to testify against the others. One subject went to trial and was found guilty on multiple counts. As a result of this conviction, the remaining subjects pled out. She wrote and served one search warrant last year pursuant to a closed season deer investigation. She is also currently involved in a commercial salmon/sturgeon investigation where she recently obtained subpoenas for airline passenger records.

Contributions to Community Policing: Officer Conklin has presented a positive image to other law enforcement agencies in Cowlitz County. Immediately upon her arrival in Longview, she earned the respect of all local law enforcement agencies by showing up to back up other agencies at all hours of the day and night. She was first on scene to assist a Castle Rock Police Department officer with an aggressive subject who was just involved in committing a domestic violence homicide. She has furthered our relationships with the Cowlitz County Sheriff's Office by spending numerous hours in the rain and dark assisting Cowlitz County Detectives with the investigation of a hunting related death in a remote area of the County. She discovered a marijuana grow in the Ryderwood unit. She met with the local Drug Task Force and showed them the site. She assisted a Trooper on a stop for no seatbelt. A search of the vehicle resulted in one and a half pounds of marijuana being discovered. Other agencies readily assist and back her up on her calls as well.

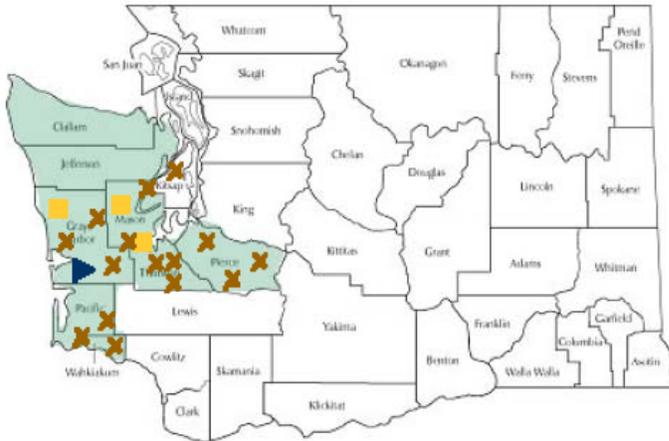
Career: Officer Conklin started work with the Fish Program as a fish checker. Over the years, she has successfully networked with a variety of other Agency staff and has worked hard to continue nurturing those relationships. She came to the Enforcement Program with those working relationships in place, and because of those relationships, it has led to increased performance and efficiencies in all aspects of the job. During her time with the Fish Program, she was a Reserve Officer for the Agency. Last year the Washington Game Warden Association selected her as the Region 5 candidate for consideration in the Washington Game Warden Association Officer of the Year selection.

Behavior: Officer Conklin is a long time member of the Washington Outdoor Women's Organization. For the last eight years at their annual event, she has taught fishing and outdoor safety to women from all over the world. Officer Conklin uses these same teaching skills and mastery of fishing to assist youngsters during the many Kid's Fishing Derbies in the Region. She is so good that she can guarantee the kids a fish.

Officer Conklin is a positive influence on her detachment and the Region. She readily volunteers for patrols and assists her fellow officers. She has committed herself to doing this job and doing it well.



Region 6 – Montesano



Captain Dan Brinson

Captain = ▲
Sergeant = ■
Officer = ✕

- **Officer Arrests Suspect on WDFW Warrant and...Murder!:** A WDFW Officer and local Department of Corrections Officers spent time searching for and apprehending subjects with WDFW warrants. During this search, Officers received information about a subject who was possible wanted for Murder in Arizona. The subject was reported to have killed his wife in Arizona in 2003 and has been on the run ever since. We checked his information in the county computer and found an active felony warrant and a hit for the murder. Several possible addresses were checked including the local hospital that confirmed that he had been a patient but that he had been released two weeks earlier. The hospital refused to give us the address that he had given. Two houses were checked finding a few other warrant subjects but not the one we were looking for. On the third try, the murder suspect was located and apprehended without incident.
- **Officers Save Public From Risk of Polluted Clams:** While on patrol in Mason County, and Officer observed a boat anchored near the beach in front of the Shelton Sewage Treatment Plant. After observing the boat for a short time, a man appeared on the other side of the boat. The Officer observed the subject digging clams and placing them in commercial mesh clam sacks. The beach is heavily contaminated with sewage and other nasty stuff and is closed by Department of Health for commercial digging. The Officer called for assistance with the contact. The Officer snuck down to the beach along the fence line at the sewage plant and maintained a visual on the harvester until a Sergeant arrived. They snuck to within 50 yards of the subject and then started advancing on him. When they got to 25-30 feet the subject looked up and then made a dash for his boat that was anchored in 3.5 feet of water. The subject refused all verbal commands to stop and was pursued into the water. The subject reached his boat and flopped into the bow, which was full of dirty clams in bags. The subject was trying to get his boat started to flee as officers continued into the water. The Sergeant reached the boat and pulled himself aboard as the

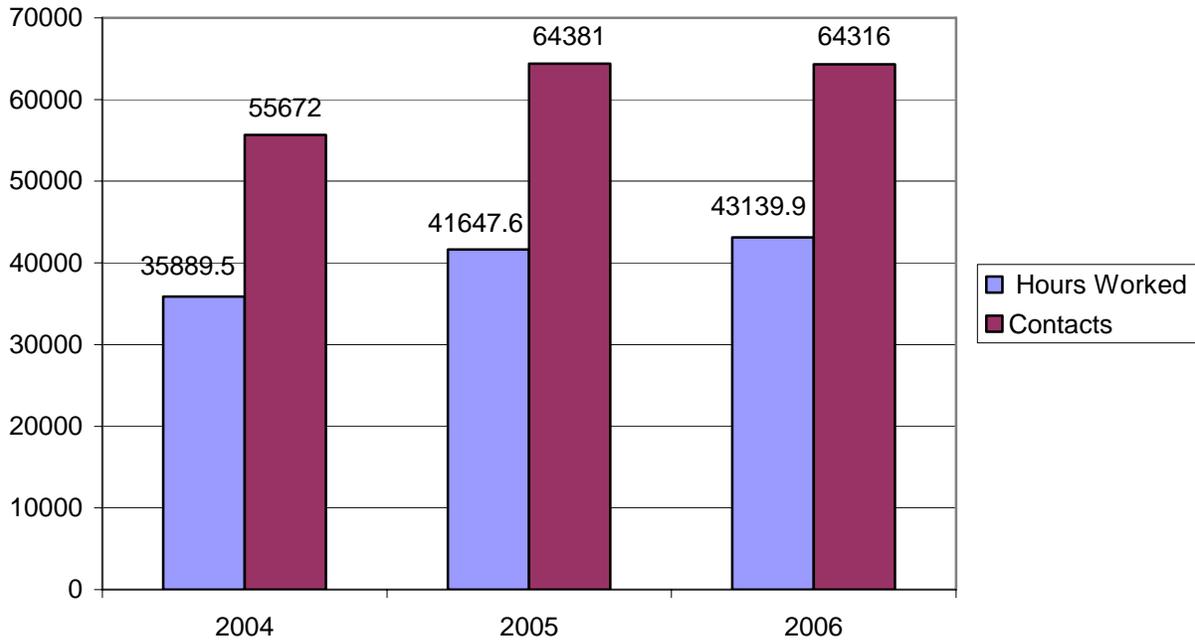


subject was reaching for the ignition. Refusing verbal commands, the subject was taken down and handcuffed by the Sergeant. An estimated 400-500 pounds of dirty clams were aboard the boat. A total of 468 pounds of contaminated clams were prevented from reaching the markets for consumption. The subject refused to disclose his buyer. A search warrant was written for the subject's vehicle for any documents or receipts. The boat, truck, and trailer were confiscated for forfeiture.

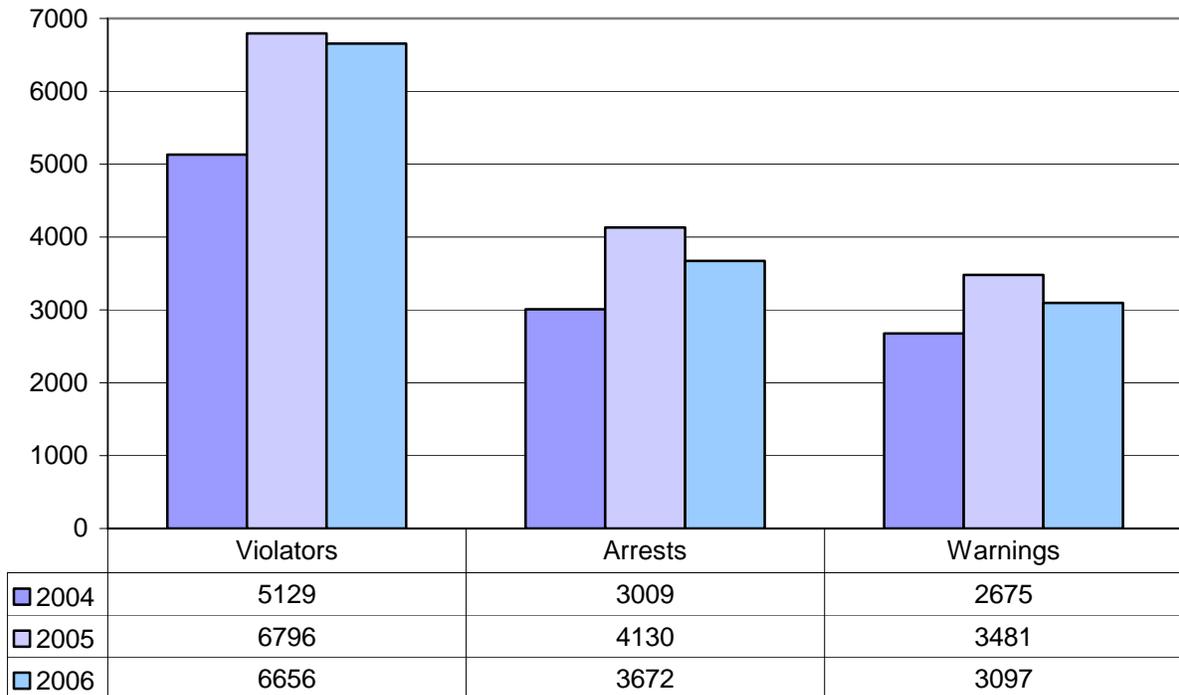
- **Black Bear Captured in Downtown Bremerton:** Officers responded early in the morning of Memorial Day to Bremerton where several residents near downtown had observed a Black Bear lurking about the neighborhood. The officers located the bear, where it had climbed about 50 feet up into a tree. By the time the officers arrived the media had gotten the story and were going live on TV with both ground crews and helicopters. The officers set up a catch tarp under the tree, got on the roof of a nearby home to ensure the best shot, darted the bear and re-located it into the Olympic Mountains north and west of Shelton. The entire "text-book perfect" operation was caught on tape and televised live across western Washington.
- **Accident Victim Owes His Life to Officer Brian Alexander:** While patrolling in the High Country between the headwaters of the Humptulips and Wynoochee rivers, Officer Alexander observed a man standing in the middle of the road attempting to start a fire around 11 a.m. When approached, the man was shivering and was not very coherent. Officer Alexander observed vehicle tracks going off the road down a steep embankment and asked the man if he had crashed, the subject said he had driven off the road the previous evening right at dark. Officer Alexander observed the operator's truck upside down in the snow approx 30-40 feet below the road. After checking the man for injuries he was put in the truck too get warm from the heater. While trying to talk to the man to find out what happened, it became apparent that the man had possibly suffered a serious head injury. He was dizzy, began vomiting out of the vehicle, and could not remember much. Officer Alexander summoned aid to respond due to the head injury, and the possibility of hypothermia. Officer Alexander was able to find out that he had been upside down in his truck for the past 16-17 hours unable to get out after waking up inside of the crashed truck. He eventually shot out his back window and crawled out of the wreck just before Officer Alexander's arrival. Aid cars were unable to reach Officer Alexander's location due to the ice and snow on the logging roads so the man was transported to them. He was quickly tended to by EMS as admitted into Community Hospital. After 5 hours, the vehicle was finally recovered. Officer Alexander later checked on the subject at the hospital and met with the man's wife. The man had suffered a head injury, and back injury and had come dangerously close to succumbing to the frozen elements.



Region 6 Hours and Contacts



Region 6 Enforcement Activity



Region Six Officer of the Year: Brian Alexander



Brian has demonstrated exemplary performance in his duties as a Fish and Wildlife Officer. He joined our enforcement program five years ago. His passion for the outdoors and the sports of hunting and fishing made him a “natural” from his first day out of the academy. His enthusiasm and self-motivation over the past five years has shown in his ever-increasing skills and knowledge in his abilities to perform the complex duties of a natural resource law enforcement officer.

Officer Alexander recently assumed the role as the Regional Evidence Custodian. He sought out and received training in marijuana leaf identification and has become a Certified Technician in this field. He took on the evidence pilot program with great enthusiasm and designed, organized and implemented the new evidence handling facility in Montesano. This was no easy task; inventorying years of collected evidence region-wide, seeking resolution to old cases, retrieving evidence from outpost locations, cataloging all into a newly developed spreadsheet, transporting items to and from the evidence lab so as not to contaminate the chain of custody, and “riding herd” over the officers, sergeants, and, yes, the captains of both Region Six and the Statewide Marine Division to ensure cases and evidence issues were resolved and accounted for.

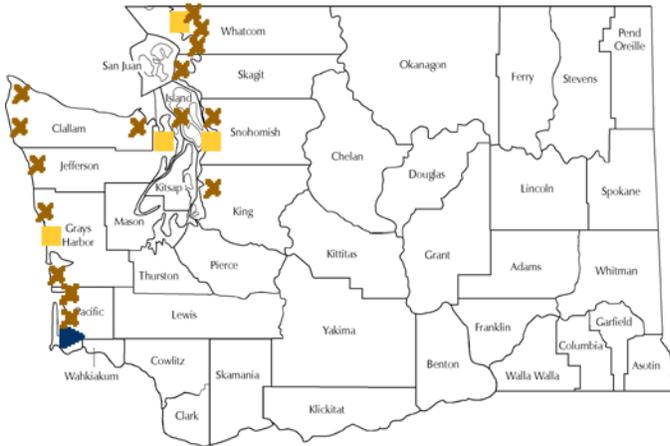
Throughout this rigorous and time consuming project, Brian continued with a full case-load, including several major big game violations and complicated un-licensed guide cases requiring coordination with the WDFW Special Investigative Unit, undercover operatives, search warrants and vessel seizures.

Officer Alexander, through this and other examples, has demonstrated excellent leadership skills and will be highly recommended for future supervisory positions. He takes the lead on emphasis patrols and complex investigations. Brian also takes an interest in new officers and goes out of his way to work with them to get them familiar with resource issues within their newly assigned areas. He has also formed a network with some of our trustworthy houndsmen and sets up ride-alongs for new officers and officers with little experience in hound hunting methods during depredation hunts so that the officers can learn and see first hand.

Brian has become very connected to the community that he and his family enjoy. They are both involved in community events such as the Grays Harbor County Fair, where they participate in cooking and judging. Brian also represents the Department at this fair by sharing a booth with the local law enforcement agencies. Brian is also active with the Washington Game Warden Association, and has authored numerous articles for all to enjoy.



Statewide Marine Division



Captain = ▲
Sergeant = ■
Officer = ✕



Captain Mike Cenci

- **One Example of a Market Emphasis:** WDFW and NOAA teamed up for a two-day market/restaurant/wholesale dealer/pet store emphasis in King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties. Sixteen State Officers, three NOAA Agents, and two U.S. Fish and Wildlife Inspectors participated in the event. Before the fieldwork, four hours of training was provided. The team checked over 80 businesses. Five criminal citations and numerous warnings were issued for possessing/selling prohibited aquatic species. The illegal species encountered: Bull Frogs, Bull Frog Tadpoles, Florida Soft Shell Turtles, Spiny Soft Shell Turtles, European Pond Turtles, Gar and Piranhas. A large shipment of Soft Shell turtles was stopped at the Sea-Tac Airport, and the shipper was warned to discontinue the practice. The receiver was issued a criminal citation. Prohibited aquatic species were found in the food marketplace as well as pet stores.



Nine additional warnings were issued for wholesaling/brokering fish without a wholesale dealer's license. Additionally, a NOAA Agent seized a mounted Loggerhead Sea Turtle from a business. Black bear/elk meat was found being



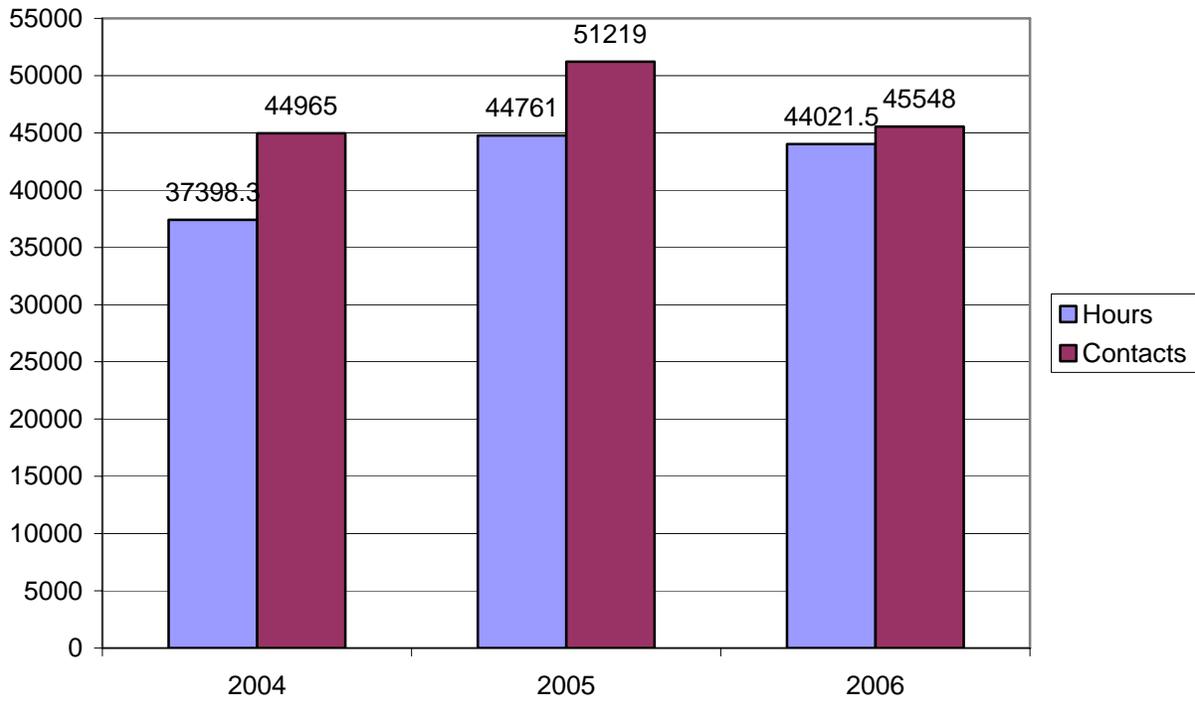
illegally sold within the state by two retail markets. Patagonian Toothfish were located and tied to an illegal import.

- **Operation Sharkfin:** A 20-fathom curve restriction was implemented in June 2006 to further reduce impacts to canary and yelloweye rockfish. Operation Sharkfin targeted non-compliance with this rule through an overt emphasis patrols involving multiple officers and patrol vessels.

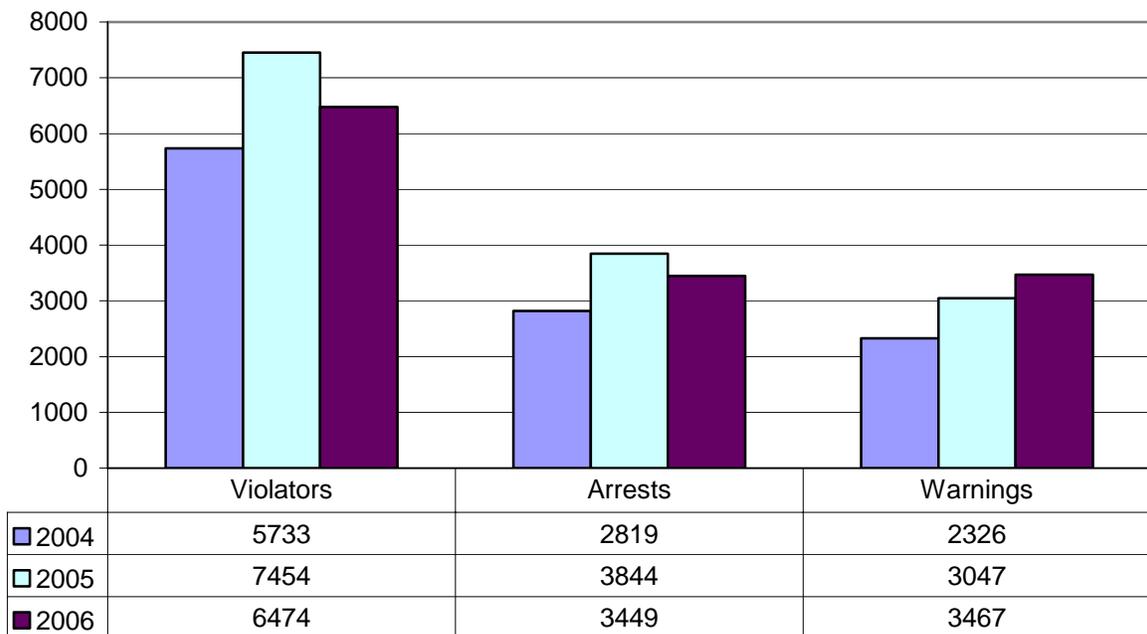
OPERATION SHARKFIN June 22-24, 2006			
TYPE OF CONTACT	# OF VESSELS CONTACTED	# OF ANGLERS CONTACTED	# OF VIOLATIONS
Sport	85	250	31
Commercial	4	7	0
TOTALS	89	257	31
TYPE OF VIOLATION	# OF ARRESTS	# OF WRITTEN WARNINGS	# OF VERBAL WARNINGS
Fathom closure	1	0	11
RCA closure	1	0	10
Fail to record halibut	0	0	10
TOTALS	2	0	31



Marine Division Hours and Contacts



Marine Division Enforcement Activity



Marine Division Officer of the Year: Danyl Klump



Officer Danyl Klump is stationed in Westport where he has been protecting fish and wildlife resources since he was hired three years ago. This workstation is not your average posting. Listed as seventh in the nation in pounds of fish and shellfish landed, this commercial fishing stronghold adds major challenges to the usual job of protecting natural resources. Facing those challenges, such as dangerous ocean conditions, unrivaled regulatory complexity, and the need to establish reasonable enforcement tolerances without being overly aggressive or seemingly weak, has never been a problem for Officer Klump.

The proof is in the statistics. Officer Klump has led the Division, and has consistently been at the top of the Program in the number of cases that he makes each year. The high quantity is matched by the high quality of his work, as investigative thoroughness can be demonstrated in any one of his clearly written case reports. Officer Klump is also a well-rounded officer, evident by the number of wildlife cases that he investigates.

But the two things that really set Officer Klump apart are tenacity and a willingness to help. In true Game Warden tradition, he makes every effort to show up when least expected and then stays on the case until he catches the bad guy, no matter how long it takes or how complicated it gets. And it does not matter how dirty the job or how tired he is, he is usually the first one to pitch in and the last one to go home.



Special Investigative Unit

In 2006, the Special Investigative Unit (SIU) faced many challenges related to Detectives current case investigations. By the substantive nature of these investigations, Detectives took part in three separate task groups each involving several state and federal agencies. Two of these three task groups focused on specific species being both legally and illegally commercially harvested and subsequently sold in what would be identified as black markets throughout and outside the state of Washington. The third task group was the idea of two Assistant United States Attorneys (AUSAs) who work out of the Seattle US Attorney's office.



Geoduck seized in an SIU investigation.

This group is called the Environmental Crimes Task Force (ECTF) and is composed of civil and criminal investigators/representatives from all state and federal Natural Resource Agencies located in the state. Environmental Task Forces have been successfully implemented throughout the United States and this is a local effort to mimic the successes of those. The purpose of the Seattle ECFT group is multifaceted. First and perhaps most important is to bring these agencies into contact

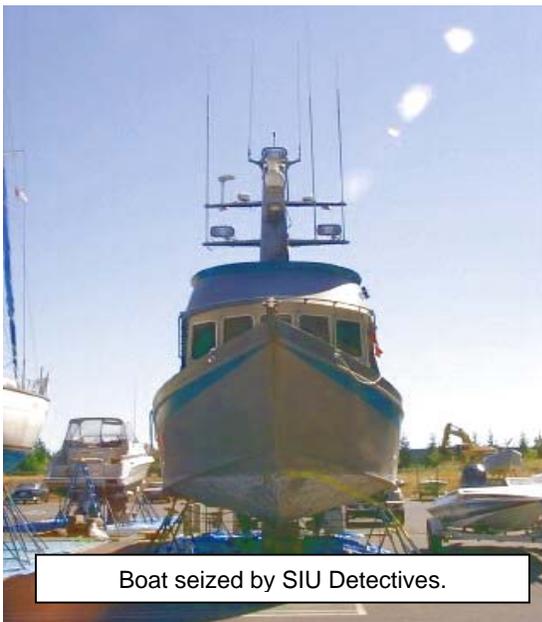
with each other for the exchange of intelligence regarding violators and subsequent violations that potentially span the scope of enforcement of several agencies. Representatives are from the Food and Drug Administration, Department of Ecology, Environmental Protection Agency, USCG, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Seattle Police Department, King County Prosecutors, Washington State Attorney General's Office, U.S. Fish/Wildlife Service (USFWS), Seattle Clean Water, Seattle Metro, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, National Parks Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Department of Transportation, Department of Natural Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and WDFW. The Lieutenant of SIU represents WDFW. SIU interacts with all the agencies but works closely with the agencies that conduct criminal investigations. Among the most valuable aspect of WDFW's participation in this group is the direct access it offers to the U.S. Attorney's for federal prosecution of their investigations. Most SIU investigations normally involve violations of both state and federal laws and the ability of having direct access to AUSA's is an important element of any investigation. In relationship to the three 2006 Grand Jury investigations, which SIU Detectives are currently involved in, this contact to the AUSA's has been a tremendous asset. Other benefits derived from SIU's participation in the ECTF are intelligence gathering from the other agencies, assistance and manpower when necessary. The ECTF will also be offering individual agency training sessions for government



employees in Seattle, Olympia and Vancouver and federal law enforcement agencies of the ECTF. WDFW SIU will be one of the agencies presenting training.

As mentioned, SIU is engaged with the AUSA's in three Grand Jury investigations. One of these investigations involves USFWS and State Police from an adjacent state.

Another investigation is at the indictment stage and the final case involved NMFS, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the Department of Homeland Security. All these cases are commercial in nature and at various stages. They all are focused on the commercialization of different species of fish and involve wholesale businesses. All the Detectives of SIU participate in one or more of these cases. Due to the nature of these investigations and according to the rules of confidentiality surrounding Grand Jury cases, specific disclosure of details regarding these investigations is restricted.



Boat seized by SIU Detectives.

In addition to these “task group” investigations SIU Detectives also are engaged in separate covert cases, mostly concerning the illegal harvest/take of several big game species. These particular investigations have taken Detectives across the state to several different areas and seasons.

In these cases Detectives have worked closely with local Fish and Wildlife Officers (FWOs) and Sergeants who have been an integral part of the investigation by gathering background information, communicating intelligence from informants and providing backup support to Detectives operating covertly. Often when Detectives work in areas outside their stations they have to rely upon the local knowledge of resident FWOs for their expertise and insights.

Likewise, in these current cases, several of which are on going, the input of local officers has provided an inside perspective to SIU.

SIU detectives were also challenged with a shortage of manpower due to several issues. One of the Detectives was injured late in the year and unable to participate in casework. This was offset; however by the temporary appointment of an FWO to SIU during the Fall season. Detectives were also assigned to complete background investigations on new hire applicants. This responsibility was a shared effort and four of the five SIU members partook in the assignment. In addition to these responsibilities, three of the SIU Detectives are designated as a Defensive Tactics Instructor, Firearm's Instructor or Critical Incident Peer Support Counselor and as such must fulfill the associated responsibilities that come with these roles.

One of the SIU Detectives is certified as “Computer Forensics Specialist” and must maintain his training to the degree that he is current with the most recent advances in this field. Within SIU, his expertise is relied upon in relationship to computer seizures,



cloning and analysis of evidence recovered from hard drives. Another Detective is assigned as the "Technical Expert" and is depended upon to provide the latest surveillance technology advice and installations to other Detectives when conducting their investigations. These roles, like the Instructors responsibilities, require much time and effort and as such take time away from the actual investigation, though they are very necessary to the success of the Unit.

Another challenge SIU encountered during 2006 affected a current covert investigation and was the result of unilateral, previously undisclosed changes to a long standing Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with USFWS. Unfortunately, SIU Detectives were told of these changes, while in the midst of the investigation and therefore unable pursue the conspiracy of violators into areas they previously assumed were available. USFWS changes to the MOA will restrict the working abilities of the two agencies. SIU is looking forward to remedies to this situation in 2007 in the near future.

As a final positive note, 2006 saw the completion of the Doug Tobin/Clearbay Fisheries Inc., investigation. While Tobin and his 29 conspirators had pled and/or been convicted and sentenced to jail, fines and restitution of more than \$1.5 million, Clearbay Fisheries had prolonged terms of agreement to the lawsuit, brought on behalf of WDFW by the Attorney General's Office. In the last half of 2006, the company conceded to terms of the settlement in which they agreed to pay the state \$112,500, drop their two liens (\$140,000) on Tobin's vessel, never conduct business in the state of Washington and agree to the forfeiture of the fishing vessel *Typhoon* to the state. Proceeds of the sale of the boat will go to WDFW Enforcement.



COMPLAINTS

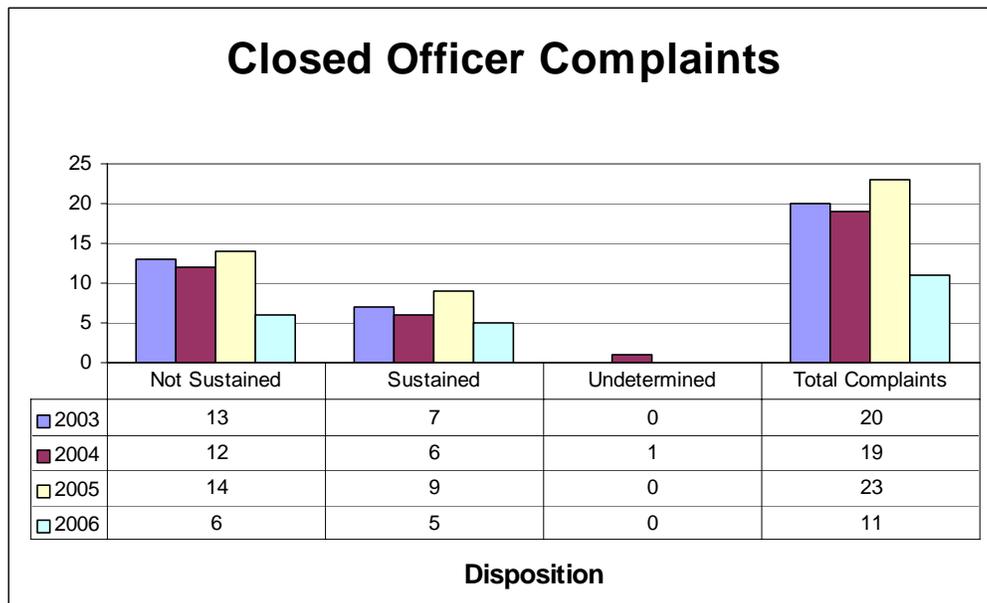
The Enforcement Program accepts verbal or written complaints against any of its employees. An Enforcement Program employee who receives a complaint is required to record the reporting party's name, phone number and name of the employee involved and attempt to immediately refer the reporting party to the employee's immediate supervisor. If a supervisor is not available, the employee is asked to courteously and promptly record as much about the complaint as possible. The complaint is forwarded to the employee's supervisor or next level supervisor.

Complaints of misconduct against the Program or Department are forwarded to the Deputy Chief and Chief for review.

A complaint may be filed by calling (360) 902-2936, or any Regional office listed on our Web page (wdfw.wa.gov/enf/enforce), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. You may also file your complaint by filling out an electronic form at http://wdfw.wa.gov/enf/comment_form.htm, or mailing a letter to:

Chief Bruce Bjork
 Department of Fish and Wildlife
 Enforcement Program
 600 Capitol Way North
 Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Citizen complaints against officers in the Enforcement Program is down in 2006: 13 compared to 28 in 2005, a decrease of 54%. Issues regarding Unbecoming Conduct were the most frequent type of complaint in 2006. Two complaint cases from 2006 have not been closed as of this printing; therefore, they are not included in these charts.



Closed Complaint Type Comparison

